

# SHORELINE

News and Views from Charmouth

Issue 11

## LOTTERY BOOST FOR THE COMMUNITY HALL IN ITS CENTENARY YEAR

**The news, in May 2010, that St Andrew's Community Hall had been awarded £50,000 by The Big Lottery Fund for the renovation of its building could not have come at a more auspicious time for the village.** The foundation stone for The Church Hall, as the building was originally known, was laid on the 3rd December 1910 by Mrs Whittington, and the hall was opened on 18th April 1911, Easter Tuesday. Our renovation work began on the 6th September 2010 and is expected to continue through to the spring of 2011.



*Photo By Cherry Davies*

There has always been a great tradition of self-help in Charmouth and it is interesting to note the similarities in how these two great enterprises proceeded a century apart. There was, of course, no lottery fund in 1910. Instead, there was a local benefactor, Mr A. D. Pass of Wootton Manor, who gave the land on which the hall was to be built. However, then as now, money still had to be raised. In 1910, the estimated building cost was £1000 and villagers were invited to buy a brick at 1d & 6d a time. When the hall roof was re-tiled in 2004, tiles were sold to individual villagers at £5 a time. In the years leading up to 1910 various fund raising events were held including a summer market with stalls and competitions and rides in new fangled things called motor cars. In the evening a band played and people danced the night away. It does all sound remarkably like the Charmouth Fayre. There were also shows, held in the school, with comic sketches, songs and monologues, surely a foretaste of the Charmouth Companions.

Our estimated total renovation costs are £75000 so, similarly, in the years leading up to 2010, various events were held which enabled us to apply for the Lottery Grant with the confidence that we could complete the required extra funding. To this end, from 2001 onwards Pantomimes and other theatrical productions were presented at the hall. There were monthly bingo sessions and cream teas in the summer months and more recently, Village Sunday Lunches have proved to be extremely popular. These latter events have echoes of the famous Village Suppers which began in 1919 and continued on and off until the sixties. Gradually more and more villagers have begun to hire the hall for their own parties and celebrations.

Renovation of the hall to provide improved modern facilities actually began in 2001 when the hall was handed over to the village, by the Salisbury Diocese, on a 50 year lease. Over the previous decades the building had been sadly neglected and was little used. Since then the roofs of the main hall and the club room have been re-tiled, the rear of the building is now centrally heated and has much improved insulation, a complete kitchen refurbishment has been carried out and a disabled ramp installed on the north side of the hall.

The current series of improvements will extend the front of the building about 4 metres. This will provide us with new ladies, gentlemen's and disabled toilets, accessible from the main body of the hall, as well as additional storage areas over three storeys.

The hall will remain available for all events during the current works and we hope you will continue to support us so that we can provide the village with a hall worthy of the new century.

To make a booking for your event, please contact Lesley Bowditch on 01297 560572

**Mike Davies**

**Shoreline is published 4 times a year, Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. The copy deadline for the next issue is 15th December 2010**

# From The Editor

**"Riches are not from an abundance of worldly goods, but from a contented mind"**

- **Mohammed**

Welcome to the bumper autumn issue of Shoreline; now a hefty 32 pages, as we just couldn't fit all the wonderful articles and features into the usual 28, despite using a smaller font and reducing the photos. So thank you very much to our regular contributors and to those of you who have submitted news and stories for the first time **and** all before the deadline too!

In previous editions we have featured villagers from all walks of life – artists, craftsmen, fossil hunters, authors, restaurateurs, therapists, tradespeople, fishermen and others, but never local artisans. I would personally like to sing the praises of several who have just finished an extension to our home : Mike Bowditch (master builder), Ralph Tucker (carpenter), Tim Holmes (handyman), Gerry Bearpark (electrician), Jonathan Tate (painter) and Mark

## Letters

**Hello. Firstly can I say how much I enjoy the Shoreline Magazine.** I have been visiting Charmouth for over 12 years with my husband and two bichon frise dogs. We have had a static caravan in Seadown Holiday Park for the past 3 years and regard Charmouth as our second home. The park is clean and tidy and the owners work very hard to keep it immaculate.

Last weekend, Friday 6th August 2010, we spent a long weekend at our caravan. On Saturday evening we took our two dogs to the beach as normal and noticed a group of people enjoying a BBQ and a few drinks on the beach. The next morning at 0730 I took the dogs down to the beach again, and was horrified to find the remains of the BBQ still on the beach with cans and bottles of beer thrown all over the beach. We walked further down to the sea shore and was appalled to find broken bottles all over the sand. I managed to pick up what I could but was so angry at the thoughtlessness of these people. An innocent child or dog could have seriously been hurt by these disrespectful people.

I regard Charmouth beach as a magical place, and a privilege to enjoy and can't understand how a group of people could be so thoughtless to others who want to enjoy the beach.

I know how much care the local people and the council take to ensure the beach is clean and tidy. I have seen the council staff working hard on many an early morning, clearing the litter and emptying the bins that us holiday makers leave behind. And because so much care is taken, it makes me even angrier that a few thoughtless individuals can ruin such good work, and spoil the environment for the rest of us.

It is people like this that give holiday makers a bad name. Sorry for the rant, but if I feel like this, I can only begin to imagine what the local people must feel.

I only hope that some of the locals realise it is only a minority of inconsiderate holiday makers that could do this and most of us cherish and respect everything about Charmouth and its magic.

**Shirley Jordan**

Thirlwell (plumber). They are all very skilled professionals who take great pride in their work. They were always cheerful – lots of whistling and singing went on – and we couldn't have wished for a nicer crew to have around for all those months – so thanks again guys.

How lovely The Street looks now all those ugly overhanging cables have been buried. BT were invited to do the same with their telephone lines while the trenches were open, but sadly they didn't take Western Power up on their offer. The new heritage lights should be in place very soon and the addition of ladder bars from which floral baskets and Christmas decorations can be hung, will only add to their charm.

**Jane Morrow**

**'Parish Lamp'** - an interesting photo of the full moon suspended from a new street light. By Trish Forsey



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### Peter Bagley - Paintings

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# Your Village, Your View Counts

**Do you remember this caption?** It was the reason for the holding of the Charmouth Parish Plan Launch Day Event in June when you were invited to come and let us have your views on the way our village should evolve over the next few years, by scribbling them on Post-it notes.

You came in great numbers, 500 plus we think, and left us with some very interesting comments, some critical, some complimentary, but always constructive.

After consulting with you informally, we now want to gather your opinion more formally and more specifically. The Steering Group has taken your comments and is using them to create a questionnaire which when completed will be delivered to every home in the village. By making use of your Launch Day comments we hope to ensure that when produced, the Parish Plan will clearly identify the significant areas of concern and the way to address them. It is hoped that the questionnaires will be delivered early next month, after which we will allow a week for you to complete them. We will then collect them and start to analyse the results.

For the Plan to be meaningful and representative of the whole community's views we would ask that every household takes the time to complete the questionnaire. A poor response will completely devalue the final plan.

The Launch Day was a great success and we believe enjoyed by everyone. Our thanks for this go first of all to the Community Hall Committee for their help but particularly to the ladies who provided those delicious cream teas, cakes and refreshments. Thanks are also due the following groups who joined us on the day: St. Andrews' Church, The Ladies British Legion, The Gardeners, Scouts, Guides and Brownies, The Bowls Club, National Trust, Charmouth Traders, Lyme Forward, Weldmar Hospice,



Heritage Centre and three fine local artists. Peter Noel produced some fantastic barbecue delights and help was also given by Pauline Lander, Carol Tritton, Bud Morrow, Toni McKee with her face painting and Simon Thompson of Dorset Community Action. Thanks are also due to Debra Peters, Tony Johnstone, Linda Crawford, Phil Tritton and Jane Morrow, my fellow Steering Group members. Once again many thanks for your support and remember the questionnaire is the only way to make sure that:

**"Your View Does Count"**

To those who could not make this event, please do not feel excluded. Send your comments to Shoreline or drop them in to Charmouth Stores and we will take account of them when compiling the questionnaire for distribution in November.

**Keith Lander**, Chair of the Steering Committee

## From The Elms

**To some extent it has been business as usual for the past three months and although we took August off, we still worked on projects, we just didn't have our usual meetings.**

In the summer issue I reported that we had lost two of our councillors. Nick Berry's employment had taken him to Cornwall and Hilary Clenden had retired due to ill health and sadly as many of you will be aware, Hilary passed away shortly thereafter, and is very much missed by us all.

Since we are between elections, these two vacancies have been filled by co-option, following the due process. Peter Noel joined us in June and replaced Nick as a member of the Foreshore Committee, and Karen Aldworth was selected in July and will join the Playing Fields and Cemetery Committee. It was most satisfying that there was considerable interest from people wishing to fill the vacancies. Incidentally, it is timely to remind you that the next Parish and District Council Elections will be held on the 6th May 2011 and some councillors are standing down - are you interested??

The allotments at the cemetery are flourishing and the Charmouth Allotment Society recently received a grant from the Section 106 pool. This is money received from

developers as a contribution for loss of green space. A more substantial portion was awarded towards the cost of the new Charmouth bridge.

In my last article I referred to the subject of vandalism in the village and sadly we have to return to it yet again. On September 4th at the foreshore car park, parked boats were severely damaged and the litter compound set on fire and burnt to the ground. So once again I appeal to you all - if you see it, please report it.

**Councillor Keith Lander**

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# Why Do We Need Marine Planning?

## **Our coastal seas and inshore waters are our lifeblood.**

We live on an Island; we have to trade with other nations across the seas; we gather fish, we extract oil, sand and gravel. We play in and under the water. In other words, there are a bewildering number of competing uses and resources at our disposal. They are not infinite, they are easily damaged or destroyed and the pressures on these resources (and the space they occupy) are intensifying.

We need an intelligent, robust (but flexible) planning system that helps to avoid conflict and at the same time encourages appropriate and compatible uses of our seas and the seabed.

In the Autumn of 2009, the tortuous path of the Marine Bill came to a successful conclusion with the introduction of the very welcome Marine Act. The Act requires that we protect our seas and the vision states that we develop *"healthy, well-managed seas, where wildlife can flourish and ecosystems are protected, connected and thrive"*.

Of course, this ecosystem-based management approach has to be harmonised with the legitimate human uses of the sea, particularly with regards to fishing, offshore construction and aggregate extraction. Because these activities are invariably location specific; the spatial element within marine planning has to be a core consideration. The term marine spatial planning (MSP) is therefore often used in the literature.

The Government has now launched a new Marine management organisation (MMO) to oversee the development of a series of regional marine spatial plans that will eventually encompass all UK waters. Some preparatory work for these marine plans is already under way and Dorset is in the forefront of this preparatory work. Note also that the MMO have a number of other responsibilities including licencing, enforcement and fishing controls.

Here in Dorset, an exciting three-year project called C-SCOPE is being conducted by a dedicated team based at

## Charmouth Traders Association

**The Charmouth Traders association has been relatively inactive over the summer, but we hope all of the traders in and around the village have enjoyed a busy time in spite of the generally disappointing weather.**

Remember that we have **www.charmouth.org** the CTA website in conjunction with the Heritage Centre who have now had their half of the site revamped and redesigned. It really is worth a look.

Should you wish to advertise your product or service on the site please contact the site at on **info@charmouth.org** or call Ian on 01297 560 411. and remember, village organisations and charities can have a listing at no cost

Finally a date for your diaries. Although it is still September and just starting to feel a little autumnal, may we take this opportunity to remind all that the **CTA Christmas Fayre** will be held on **Thursday 2nd of December.**

**Ian Simpson**  
**Page 4**

County Hall in Dorchester under the umbrella of the Dorset Coast Forum. A number of important groups (including the National Trust) are supporting the project work both financially as well as in practical ways. The task is to create a model MSP for the waters between Portland bill and Durlston Head (Swanage) out to the 12-mile limit. They will map and assess all the possible uses, routes, attributes of every location and sub-location within this area of sea. Even the seabed is being mapped (under the watchful eye of the Dorset Wildlife Trust). All the social, environmental and economic factors will be accounted for. Whilst this is only a relatively small area of sea, it is hoped that the MMO will use the final plan as a prototype for the wider plans that they have to produce. The Government expect all UK waters to have an effective, workable MSP by 2020.

In 2009, UNESCO issued a *Marine Spatial Planning Guide* and there are a number of basic principles that have to be adhered to when constructing a MSP:

- We must balance ecological, economic and social goals
- Any (and all) development proposals for our seas must be shown to be sustainable in the long term
- The plans should embrace all sectors and all levels of Government
- Plans should be place-based or area-based and take account of the natural coast and marine processes already at work
- Plans should be anticipatory (especially regarding climate change possible impacts)
- Plans must involve all stakeholders in a positive and inclusive fashion

Clearly it is important that these innovative marine plans are based on good science and good data. For example, if certain areas of seabed are to be protected and the marine life there conserved, it is necessary that we know exactly what is living there, what species are involved and their particular vulnerabilities. So marine planning has to accommodate and integrate any designated marine protected areas and vulnerable species.

In conclusion, marine planning is a relatively new concept in the formal sense and it is still evolving as a discipline.. It should be seen as a 'process', a tool to assist in effective decision-making and the best possible way to protect our precious marine assets for generations to come.

What better aspiration could we have?....especially in such a maritime County as Dorset.

**Tony Flux**

Dorset Coastal Zone Projects Manager for the National trust.

**Shoreline is now available to  
view online at  
[www.charmouth.org](http://www.charmouth.org).**

**Find this, and all previous issues in  
colour on the CTA's village website!**

# Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre

**The Centre has had a very busy summer season and so far this year we have recorded over 70,000 visitors.**

Over the summer months our new website went online and feedback from visitors and schools alike has been very positive. We now have a new online booking facility for walks and events and an online shop with gifts and books. Over the next couple of months we hope to add more items for sale in time for the Christmas shopping period. The whole website has been revamped with new graphics and information and direct links to the Charmouth Traders site for information on accommodation and facilities available within our village.

Marine Week was a great success with plankton trawling boat trips in conjunction with Harry May at Lyme Regis, Rockpool Rambles, fish funfairs and many oceans of fun arts and crafts events. Our fossil walks were extremely popular over the summer months too, with an average of 100 people on each walk!

Though autumn and winter are fast approaching we won't be slowing down however, as we welcome back the schools on visits after their summer break and start a winter programme of events with fossils walks and family and adult fossil weekends. We are also looking into hosting a local arts and crafts fayre nearer to Christmas.

The Year 5 and 6 children of Charmouth Primary School will start their new season of Junior Warden meetings at the Centre every week, and promise to look very smart in their

new warden uniforms, which have been funded by the Centre and also the Friends of Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre. Also, over the Christmas period we are discussing the possibility of running a fossil walk on Monday 27th December in aid of Help for Heroes and BLESMA (British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association).

The Centre would like to thank all those people in the village who support the Centre and give their time as Friends (volunteers) and if you feel you could spare a few hours, new volunteers are always welcome.

I would like to finish on a very positive note for both the Centre and the village as a whole...the following comment was sent to **www.charmouth.org** from a visitor and his family over the summer months....

"We have just spent a week in Charmouth. Our son who is 10 found lots of fossils walking along the beach and each time ran to the Heritage Centre where a lovely helpful lady told him about them. Everybody was so helpful in the Centre and indeed in Charmouth. I am now planning next year's holiday there. My daughter found a large stone and we broke it open when we got home and found what we think is a fossil in it which she wants to bring next time to be identified."

Thank you, see you next year, John and family

**Meirel Whaites (Senior Warden)**

## Chinese Lantern Warning From The Coast Guards

**HSBC recently produced a wonderful advert to promote their financial services.** The ad contained magical images showing Chinese lanterns being launched into the night sky and watching them gently float away. Invented in the third century, the Chinese use paint to adorn their paper lanterns and send their hopes and dreams of the future into the heavens. The world's local bank has had lot to do with raising the number of call outs for the Coastguard and the RNLI. The farming community is none too happy either.....

In coastal communities, the Chinese lanterns are being mistaken for marine distress flares and the rescue teams and lifeboats are being called out to 'false' alarms. In the country side, the lanterns are posing a significant risk to farm animals, wildlife and to property. Their fine metal wire frames do not biodegrade and can be accidentally eaten by animals, cattle and horses in particular, and can cause an agonising, slow death. Moreover, arable producers warn that dry, hot fields of crops can be ignited by lanterns.

They are cheap, easy to use and, above all, pretty to look at and over the last decade they have become an increasingly popular sight at weddings, music festivals and even funerals. The lanterns - effectively mini-hot air balloons composed of flame, paper and wire - cost as little as £2 each. They can travel as far as 30 miles up to a mile high, carried ever upwards by the heat until they burn out and fall to earth. A decade ago, the lanterns were very occasionally seen but an estimated 200,000 are now believed to be released each summer across the UK.

This month even saw questions raised in the House of Commons, with one MP asking Nick Clegg to consider an outright ban. Chinese lanterns are banned in Germany and Australia but not here.

According to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, there were nine "incidents caused by Chinese lanterns" in 2007, 49 in 2008 and 347 in 2009. They have also been blamed for a flurry of UFO sightings. The lanterns have resulted in many wasted hours of time by the coastguard cliff rescue teams and the RNLI volunteers.



So if you are planning a special occasion and plan using Chinese lanterns as part of the celebrations please think carefully. Make sure the lantern is completely biodegradable and if released near the coast, please inform the Coastguard so a major search for a vessel in distress is not set in motion.

**Nick Bale**

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# Oxenbury Family Memories, Part 1



*Dorothy & Leslie Oxenbury in the mid-1950s*

**Dorothy Kathleen Muriel Legg was born in Halstock in 1911 and was educated in Crewkerne.** When she was 18 years-of-age, her family moved to Great Coombe Farm, Wootton Fitzpaine, where she met local coach builder Leslie John Oxenbury. After the couple married in 1932, they moved to Romany in Lower Sea Lane.

Dorothy joined the Red Cross in 1944 and attended lectures and nursing demonstrations in preparation for her initial examinations in home nursing and first aid, which she passed the following year. Many more examinations

followed and in 1954 she became Miss Joan Whittington's deputy. Miss Whittington had been a nurse during the war and, together with her sisters, ran Charmouth's ambulance service – a service that also covered Whitchurch Canonichum, Wootton Fitzpaine and Morecombelake. When Miss Whittington retired, Dorothy took the helm.

Taxi driver George Rowland drove the ambulance and Billy Gear of Gear's Garage (located just west of the Abbots House) generously paid George's wages, thus providing his services free of charge to the Red Cross. Dr Arthur Chamberlain, who was based at Askew House, frequently used the ambulance for his patients, while Dorothy and Hazel Clarke provided first aid cover at fetes and other local events. Dorothy was frequently called to beach emergencies and, on one occasion, tried to resuscitate a girl who, tragically, became trapped under the river Char footbridge.

Red Cross meetings were held at Romany, and Elsie Bragg, Ruby Pennells, Jill Linthorne, Yvonne Fiddler and Hazel Clarke were amongst the regular attendees who heard Dr Chamberlain and several doctors from Bridport talk about different aspects of nursing. Throughout the years Dorothy organised fund-raising events for the Red Cross, including cream teas on Romany's front lawn and sales of knick-knacks and Hazel's home-made toys. She became Commandant of Detachment 102 of the Dorset Branch in 1958, eight years after being made Assistant Commandant.

In 1958, when the Duchess of Marlborough was President of the Red Cross, a Christian Dior fashion show was held at Blenheim Palace in aid of the charity. Dorothy sold programmes to the 1,650 guests, including guest-of-honour Princess Margaret.

In the 1960s she spent two weeks each summer helping disabled children and adults enjoy their holiday at Pontin's Osmington Bay campsite.

One day Dorothy was called to the roadside by Nutcombe Terrace and remained with a dying motorcyclist while the ambulance took an injured girl to hospital. Her family recall that the incident affected her. Shortly afterwards she developed diabetes.

In 1975 Dorothy was presented with a British Red Cross Society Certificate for meritorious service, and in 1979 she received a Badge of Honour and Life Membership in recognition of her devoted service. Sadly, the local branch

was disbanded when Dorothy's diabetes worsened and no one else took over.

In addition to her many Red Cross commitments, Dorothy ran a bed and breakfast business at Romany. She started the Char Valley Over Sixties Club in the 1960s and organised the annual Christmas lunches at the Village (WI) Hall. For many years she ran a chiropody clinic for the elderly, disabled and expectant mothers and the Lyme Regis six monthly blood donor sessions. She enjoyed embroidery and was skilled in the Dorset stitch, which she exhibited at a Dorset Arts & Crafts exhibition in 1957. In later life Dorothy took up bridge, which she played with Win North in Parkway the night before her sudden death in 1987.

Dorothy was a popular lady with a strong community spirit, who wholeheartedly involved herself in the life of the village. Her only son, Ronald John Oxenbury, lives with his wife Gwen at Greenbanks in Lower Sea Lane.

With thanks to Gwen and Ron, who will contribute their own memories in the winter issue of *Shoreline*.



**Char Valley Over Sixties Club Christmas Lunch in the Village Hall, 1960s –**

Left to right, Elsie Bragg, ?, Dorothy Oxenbury, Ruby Pennells, Jean Bowditch, Fred Morgan, ?, ?, Hazel Clarke; gentleman in foreground unknown Please let *Shoreline* know if you can help name those featured in this photograph

**Lesley Dunlop**

**Hensleigh** near the sea ....sand.....fossils.....



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# Grand Opening Of The Heritage Mews



*Ribbon cutting by Jamie Thomas to mark opening of new development. With him (l to r) Roger Powell, Chairman of Yarlington Housing Group; Charlie Scherer, Operations Director of Housing Rok; Robert Gould, Leader of WDDC; Geoff Joy, Head of Housing WDDC; Mike Kay, Chief Executive Yarlington Housing Group.*

**Representatives from West Dorset District Council, Charmouth Parish Council and construction partners Rok joined in the celebrations at the opening of the Heritage Mews development** as the ribbon was cut by local schoolboy Jamie Thomas, whose suggestion of the new name for the development had been chosen. One close neighbour to the scheme, Mrs Lilley Bagley, was among those to compliment the building and the workforce, who she said were always very courteous and considerate. The guests were full of praise for the development, and many commented on how well it blended in with the area.

All of the homes have been allocated according to a 'local lettings' policy, which required applicants to have a strong local connection with Charmouth, thereby providing much needed affordable homes for local people.

The homes have been built following the generous provision of land by West Dorset District Council, allowing Yarlington Housing Group to develop part of the under-used car park. By working closely with Charmouth Parish Council throughout the whole planning and design process, the scheme also benefits the local community with other environmental improvements to the area, including the resurfacing of the car park adjacent to the project and the building of a new toilet block.

Roger Powell, chairman of Yarlington Housing Group said "This is our first project in West Dorset, and we are delighted with the outcome. It is vital that there is affordable housing in the area enabling local people to remain here. The homes look fantastic; we are very proud of this development, and of the way that all of the parties have worked together to enable this to come about."

Robert Gould, Leader of West Dorset District Council, said "Providing decent, affordable homes for local people is the district council's top priority. I am thrilled that by handing over this underused land, which represents an investment of around £425,000, the district council has helped another eleven families improve their life by moving into a new home."

The development is located within the conservation area, and as such the properties have been finished in a material similar to the local stone, designed to fit in with the aesthetic beauty of their surroundings. Although the site is within the permitted development area, as it is a rural scheme it incorporates many sustainable elements within the build, including Ground Source Heat Pumps providing an environmentally preferable supply of energy.

**Amanda Matthews**  
Yarlington Housing Group

## Home Sweet Home

**Two years after first proposed, the controversial affordable housing development in St Andrew's Road car park has been completed and provides eleven homes for local people on the West Dorset Council housing list.**

Built by Rok Construction, the three houses and eight flats are highly insulated, electrically powered and incorporate 'green' building features, including a ground source heat pump system which provides low-cost heating and hot water. There are even two bat nest boxes!

Tim Holmes, living in number 1 Heritage Close, is delighted with his new 3-bed home and praised Yarlington Housing Association for their attention to detail.

He said all the prospective tenants were invited to Yarlington's headquarters in Yeovil on 6th August to sign Tenancy Agreements, view a video on Good Neighbours, receive information packs and best of all, some shiny new keys to their future homes.

Tim explained that the company tries to foster a close-knit community within all new developments, and as several tenants already knew each other it was easier in this case - they've helped one other with removals and have already had neighbourhood barbeques.

Controversial it may have been, but there's no doubting the happiness of Charmouth's latest eleven local people in having homes of their own at last.

**Colin Pring**

*The pastel colours and varied roof line are attractive and a great improvement on the former untidy clutter of recycling bins.*





# A Short Story - The Stonebarrow Armistice

**Under the watchful eye of Mr Woo, the wise old owl, the last visitors to Stonebarrow left for their homes on foot and by car with their assortment of tired, dirty and panting dogs, tired and dirty children and big people.**

'Phew' said Mr Woo, 'I thought they'd never go. I'll just get Sammy seagull to fly over and confirm there are no stragglers'. This was confirmed by Sammy doing a swooping flypast before he went inland to roost.

Mr Woo sent word through the fluttering leaves of the trees and the swaying of the blades of grass, that there was to be a nocturnal armistice on killing for food, for this one day only. He said there had been the painful bleeding to death of one of their number who had uncharacteristically tripped over a discarded broken beer bottle which had pierced his heart.

He continued that everyone knew wild animals had to kill to survive, but theirs were 'quick and clean' kills. Broken bottles, drink cans, plastics, rusty metal etc discarded by throwaway Man caused unnecessary death to the animal world. There would be a one-off clearance of their habitat and everyone (all except those in labour) would take part! Mr Woo further instructed his workforce that he, naturally, would be the 'lookout' for any joyriders, the latest enemy to disturb their evening forays for food, and would give two hoots to warn of their advance. Otherwise they should start to collect the rubbish and deposit it in separate, sorted piles by the roadside. 'Help one another and don't exceed your strength' he cautioned. 'There are enough of you to deal with anything you find. I shall decide when our land is clean' he continued, 'at which time you will take to your beds. Good luck and thank you.'

After an initial, uncertain glance at their neighbours, they got 'stuck in'. The piles grew and grew when suddenly there

was an ear-piercing screech from Mr Woo. 'FREEZE' he ordered, which they did of course. Nobody disobeyed Mr Woo, but it was a false alarm – the coastal helicopter was on its usual night patrol and they were well used to it. Mr Woo was not embarrassed at his mistake – he said he was testing their alertness and giving them a break!

In order to stretch his wings, Mr Woo flew back and forth over the site and finally declared that the area was 'clean' and they should hurry home to their beds.

The armistice was over but they were so tired they had no thought for satisfying their hunger – they were all asleep in seconds!

Except for Mr Woo, of course – he was ever alert. Nobody would even think to suggest that his job had been easy!

## Footnotes

The heat sensors of the patrolling helicopter had alerted the crew to an abnormal amount of activity on the ground. They radio'd in to their control centre that it might be worth while checking out Stonebarrow. There could be a 'rave' in the making. OK and out!

The Coastguard patrol car took to the road and killed its lights as it neared the site. Surprise was a vital element of their work. The driver brought the patrol car to a gentle stop and switched on the mounted searchlight. Not a blade of grass nor a leaf in the trees moved. This was still life! The driver returned to his car and radio'd in that all was well, he was on his way back. He made a mental note to remind West Dorset District Council that there were huge, but tidy, piles of recyclable materials by the roadside at Stonebarrow which perhaps could be collected before the wildlife spread it all about!

Mr Woo, the wise old owl with his highly-tuned hearing, heard this. He smiled knowingly and closed his eyes.

**Audrey Coussens**

## Chatterbooks

A potted history. Four years ago libraries were under serious threat of closure. It was suggested that in support of the library, book clubs might be formed. In doing so, we could use the library as a meeting place – out of normal hours – and order our selection of books through the library service. There was a lot of enthusiasm and subsequently several book clubs came into being. Some meet in the library, others elsewhere.

Summer has gone, busily and in a flash. Autumn breezes nip the air as we come back after an August stand-down to start a new term in September.

So we are Chatterbooks. Aptly named because that's what we do, chat and read books. We meet monthly. Discussions are always lively and opinionated. We have a breadth of experience and angst to draw upon. There are ten of us. A good number for a group. Any more and the library would find it hard to get copies of the same book as required. We have lost some members but still retain our core from four years ago, with a few additions. Books are eclectic, ranging from the classic, crime, the Bookers and the Orange Prize selections, history, biographies and even

Boris Johnson's '77 Virgins' as light relief! Quite often it is a challenge, quite often it is a delight but whatever it is it certainly keeps the brain ticking over.

It is surprising where books can take you. It started with supporting our library and has led Chatterbooks to friendships and fine dining. So it seems we have morphed into Chatterbooks that dine from time to time – not always fine dining but also the odd picnic on the beach. Always pleasurable. Food, drink and books a heady cocktail.

If you are encouraged to start a book club, the library service is there to help. You never know where it could lead you. Use it or lose it as the saying goes. We wish you happy reading.

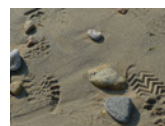
**Joy Eagling**

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## Thank You!

**The Summer Barbeque at Bymead House raised over £500 in aid of the Dorset Air Ambulance. The staff at Bymead would like to say thank you to everybody who supported us, either on the day or by donating raffle prizes.**



# The 2nd Charmouth Literary Festival

## The second Charmouth Literary Festival takes place on Saturday 16th October.

This is a free to attend event and is one day only. We enjoyed great success last year and have built on that experience.

We are delighted to have Simon Hall, T.V. crime reporter and author, opening the afternoon session. Kit Berry, author of the Stonewylde series, set in and around this area, will open the morning session. A lot of people, including the authors, have given their time freely and we appreciate the confidence and support.

Dr. Colin Dawes, an expert on the Jurassic coast, will once again impart his knowledge on the subject in the best way possible, by meeting at the Heritage Centre and then going for an inspired walk to the beach. Local authors, Anne Orchard, Sallyann Sheridan and Wendy Knee will host sessions, along with Jennifer Grierson, poet and storyteller.

The event is designed to encourage writers and would be writers, to learn from the experience of the experienced and those still battling their way through the desire to write and get published. It is for anyone who has an interest in words. We have two family sessions this year to encourage the young writers in our community. Most important it is another aspect of living in Charmouth and exploring what is on offer.

[www.charmouthliteraryfestival.org.uk](http://www.charmouthliteraryfestival.org.uk)

## Program Of Events

Saturday 16th October 2010

### St Andrew's Village Hall - Main Hall

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 10:00         | Host and organiser Wendy Knee opens proceedings  |
| 10:15 - 11:15 | Kit Berry speaking about her Stonewylde books and writing.   |
| 11:15 - 11:45 | Coffee break   |
| 11:45 - 13:00 | Audience participation, discussion and practical exercises with Kit Berry.                                       |
| 13:00 - 14:00 | Lunch break  |
| 14:00 - 15:00 | Simon Hall on crime writing and research.  |
| 15:00 - 15:45 | Anne Orchard on the truth about writing a book and becoming an author.   |
| 16:00 - 16:30 | Wendy Knee motivates you to take action based on what you have learned during the day. We also welcome feedback. |

### St Andrew's Village Hall - Meeting Room

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 10:00 - 13:00 | Children's programme run by the Charmouth Primary School PTA (Children must be supervised) |
| 14:00 - 15:00 | Poetry with Jennifer Grierson  |
| 15:00 - 16:00 | Fiction Writing Workshop with Sallyann Sheridan  |

### Charmouth Library

- |            |                                     |
|------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10.30 - 12 | Family literary activities and quiz |
|------------|-------------------------------------|

### Ida's Store

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 11:30 - 12:45 | Storytelling for all age groups with Jennifer Grierson |
| 14:00 - 14:45 | Consult on your writing project with Anne Orchard      |
| 15:00 - 16:00 | Tea with Simon Hall, a chance to speak to the author.  |

### Charmouth Heritage Centre

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 15:00 | Dr Colin Dawes presents 'Jurassic Coast' followed by a walk. |
|-------|--|

## Poetry

### THE HERITAGE CENTRE VOLUNTEERS

The folks behind the Centre's desk you'd have to call mature.  
Most can boast of three score years and some of us much more.  
We have to know the price of things that people want to buy.  
Sometimes we say, "How much is that?" and hope they do not lie.

The workings of the till at first we find a little strange.  
We have to know which keys to hit and calculate the change.  
"Oh dear it says upon the screen that thing's three thousand quid,  
That cannot be the proper price for one toy rubber squid".

People come up to the desk with bags all full of bumps.  
They pull out shells and pebbles and weird shaped rocky lumps.  
"What's this?" they ask hoping it's rare and maybe swam or flew.  
You'll have to ask a warden because we don't have a clue.

There are some long-term volunteers who really know their stuff.  
They answer peoples' questions that most of us find tough.  
Like "Is this pointy thing a tooth or just a bellamite?".  
They know the poo from dinosaurs is known as coprolite.

Three hours can seem a long, long when time there's not much to do  
And then a school trip marches in, the place is like a zoo.  
Why do we go and do it, well you needn't be surprised?  
We like to keep our hand in 'cause we're not yet fossilised.

*by Peter Crowter*

# A Journey Towards 'H'

**The last time I wrote an A-Z was for the now-extinct allotments at Manor Gardens, East London.** It was towards being a story of the community and the individuals there; a list of lovely things and a lamentation of what would be lost should the Olympic developers get their way. It was a small part of a much larger campaign which ultimately failed but which drew us all together and helped us enjoy what we had for the time remaining. Peoples' responses were very touching; I got messages from others whose allotments were threatened (and still are); a film maker read it and was inspired to make a film there. Another writer referred to it when trying to initiate a community project.

Now I have moved from one site of Olympic preparation to another: Weymouth up the road; archaeologists out in force trying to rescue our past from the bulldozers. And I myself am beginning a new relationship with a place. Time for a new A-Z: one which will unfold as the months and years pass; whose story and character has yet to be revealed. So, in the absence of any big narrative, I will begin randomly, on a whim, at **H**. (Actually, when I think about it, it isn't random at all. H is for a film I like. See below.\*) Anyway,

**H** is for a new **Home** and imagined **Hauntings**.

A new home in an old house – or half of one, since it was divided in the 70s. When we first moved in, it felt a bit haunted. We weren't used to the way the wind gets into the walls at night and moans like a baby. There were odd smells of woodsmoke and cigars that seemed to release themselves at random in the porch and dining room. Our eldest daughter started out with her bedroom in the attic room but came down to the smaller one on the same floor as the rest of us. 'It's all rattly up there, Mum. There are noises.' Our neighbours told us that there was once a butterfly farm here and, at another time, an admiral had a sort of deck built in the reception room so he could look at the sea. I imagine a telescope set up and cries of, 'There she blows!' Ok, that's probably over-romantic and more likely off Cape Cod, but I have seen the photos of dolphins in Lyme Bay.

**H** is for **Horizon**, the massive curved sort, the way the Earth expresses itself when you give it enough space. It's an adjustment for the eyes and brain after living in a city. A particular kind of release.

**H** is for **Hill** and the **huff huff huff** of the unfit former city dweller pushing a buggy (you need to be nearly horizontal to the tarmac for this) up Westcliff Road. We arrived in the ice and got colds and our breath was even shorter than usual. Now I go the other way round, but it's getting easier and my belt shows I've lost a few pounds.

For **Hound**. The joy for our retired racer in sniffing around the cliffs, and bouncing in the surf, and opening up fast along the sand at low tide. She hated the journey down, whimpered and shook at the motorway services, cried all night and threatened to wake the house when we stayed with my parents. And then the first afternoon here, out in the garden, bounding between the different levels, delighted by the freshness of the air, the knowledge that she was here, and it was home. If a dog could smile ...

For **Hello** on the beach as said dog tries to adopt another owner – one who wouldn't mind her leaning on them all day as they stroke her neck. As the days and weeks pass, one hello follows another and another. We begin the process of getting to know and getting known. A journey towards hello. Or hi. Or hey. Or meet you down the hut.

\* 'A Walk Through H: the Reincarnation of an Ornithologist' is a short early film by Peter Greenaway. It was a long time before he had box office success; it is not glitzy or slick, maybe a touch obscure but in a good way. It's about a journey through a map. The map is hand-drawn: something like a child's treasure map and something like the medieval *Mappe Mundi*. As you read the map, you travel through it and the places you have passed fade away. There is no going back. Sometimes the places are already fading before you get there and you have to hurry; sometimes the map symbols are ambiguous: a particular mark may be a signpost or it may be a windmill. The map is both a map and the land itself and the pleasure is in the journey and the suggestiveness and the confusion. Now it seems rather prophetic. Here we are on the edge of a coastline which is dynamic to say the least. Stonebarrow is changing nearly as fast as the map in the film. And, glimpsed through the sea fret, could that signpost be a windmill? Or a lighthouse? Or a ghost? Huff huff huff grunt. Maybe Greenaway could be so poetic because he wasn't pushing a buggy and towing a greyhound past the recycling bins on a Wednesday.

*PostScript*

**Home** again. Just after writing this, my mum passed me some back numbers of *Dorset Life*. I was leafing through casually when I stopped with a strange jolt of recognition. *That cottage*. I knew every stone in the wall; even the way the trellis joined to the boundary was intimately familiar. It was the cottage in Deanland, near Sixpenny Handley, where I spent the first year of my life. We only moved half a mile away up the same lane so I passed that cottage almost every day for the next eighteen or so years. At some point, I went for piano lessons there and we shared a party phone line with the new owners. On the next page of the magazine was a photo of the great avenue of beech trees in Rushmore Woods where I used to ride. I can still feel the ruts underfoot in all the different weathers and the trees look exactly the same as when I was ten.

So, it's an off-kilter sort of home-coming. I'm in a new place, still saying hello for the first time, and I'm back. Even some of the sacks of flour in the Town Mill Bakery come from a mill owned by a friend of my sister's. Oh, and the allotments A-Z was inspired by Common Ground, a fantastic organization celebrating the local and particular – and based in Shaftesbury. As someone said to me recently, 'Well, it's Dorset, isn't it'.

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# The Life in a Day of Sallyann Sheridan

**Lyme Regis is the main setting for local author Sallyann Sheridan's acclaimed first novel, *If Wishes Were Horses*, and we're delighted that Charmouth is immortalised in its last four chapters.** Lauded by critics and the press, the book was nominated for The Guardian Literary Award.

Wiltshire-born Sallyann was a reader of fiction from an extremely early age and produced two books as a child. She has always loved the feel of a pen gliding over the page and relishes the pleasure of seeing words build into an article or a story. Here Sallyann tells her own story:

"Books have always fascinated me. One of my earliest memories is sitting cross-legged in a library being read to by the librarian. In one of my first jobs I discovered I had a flair for writing sales letters, so I avidly read books by and about successful copywriters and ate anything to do with words and publishing. My strength was that I could simplify things and make them accessible to all. I believe the onus is on the writer to write what others understand, not for the reader to struggle to understand.

When I proved to myself that I could copy write, I became a freelance copywriter and wrote advertisements, packaging copy, sales letters, information leaflets, books to accompany products, scripts, book cover blurbs; almost anything that required the written word. After writing so much for others, I was asked to write a book in my own name about relaxation because by that time I was also a stress management consultant. I had also written my own training program and led corporate training sessions for educational establishments.

The feedback I receive about my self-help books (*The Magic of Writing Things Down*, *Writing Great Copy*, *Using Relaxation for Health and Success* and *Getting More Business*) amazes me. After all, in most instances I am only passing on ideas and tools that have helped me. People have taken my ideas and found benefit from them too. It is truly humbling to receive cards thanking me for particular ideas that helped people through difficult times. If one of my books helps one person, what more could I ask?

I enjoy passing on all I have learned at my Creative Writing Days. Some are residential whilst others last a day, but people always seem to leave inspired and I'm happy to report a great many success stories. The courses are an absolute joy to me – and hopefully useful to those who attend!

I started the Ida's-based Jurassic Coast Writers Group with Alan and Shirley Stanford over a year ago for writers and would-be writers to meet to discuss writing and being published. People from Charmouth and further afield bring their own writing to read and we exchange information about competitions and writers' markets. It is a friendly gathering of people who enjoy the energy of being in the company of other writers. We meet between 2.00 and 4.00 pm on the first Saturday of every month.

I have an enormous affection for Charmouth. What I love is the juxtaposition of countryside and coastline. People here are not simply willing to lend a helping hand; they frequently do. I never cease to be amazed at their thoughtfulness. Charmouth is a wonderful place that really does take some beating.

When a seemingly harmless woman said to me that she would kill a particular person should the opportunity arise,



it got me thinking. She was so far removed from most people's ideas of a killer that I began to explore the idea of what would prompt such a person to commit murder. That's where the idea of *If Wishes Were Horses* started. It has a completely different ending to the one I first considered because the character took over the story as I wrote it and led me to a different place. It took much research and developing to ensure I got the details right. Although the main story takes place in Lyme Regis and ultimately Charmouth during a couple of weeks in July 2006, parts refer back to 1970s Swindon to reveal the main character's motives. It's strange that I should end up living locally as I was in Canada when I first penned the Lyme Regis scenes.

My new book revolves around a man who, externally, has everything most people want. So why isn't he content? A letter prompts him to make changes which reveal many skeletons and the knowledge that his wife and family are not the people he thought they were. My idea comes from understanding that many people live an acquisitive, unfulfilled life, working for some future point that may or may not arrive. Although I have a plan in mind for this book, I recognise that the main character will probably take me on an eventful journey in its writing!

It's not enough to write a good book. Writing is only part of the process. Editing and revising are crucial and I love this part – making each sentence earn its living. I am now in the position of being able to write what I want to write, which so far has proved to be what others want to read!"

Meet Sallyann at Charmouth Literary Festival on Saturday 16th October. She will be speaking about novel writing at 3.00pm in the meeting room at the rear of St Andrew's Hall.

**Lesley Dunlop**

## What's Occurring?

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# Quintessentially Quince!

**When we moved into the White House nearly ten years ago the garden to the rear of the hotel was to say the least, a little overgrown and unruly.** Over the course of the summer and into the autumn, whilst trying to tame this jungle, we discovered that it was actually pretty well stocked with fruit trees; four varieties of apple, two pear, three damson and a lovely old greengage tree which bore so much fruit in the autumn that it got too heavy, split its trunk and sadly never recovered.

In its place I planted a quince tree. I am not quite sure why I chose quince never having grown it before, but as we had a fairly full quota of other fruit trees, it seemed a good idea at the time. Ten years on and that tree has been one of the few unqualified gardening successes I have had, mainly I suspect because I have done very little to it since planting, bar a little tentative pruning of some unruly branches. In spite (or who knows, possibly because) of this it has in the last few years consistently produced around 25 kilos of quince each year and this year looks like it will be no exception.

Originally from the Middle East, quince spread throughout the world along the ancient trade routes that took it initially to China and the Orient and also to Western Europe, becoming especially popular in Iberia and what later became Italy. The European colonizers then subsequently took it to just about every part of the world where it could grow. In Portugal the quince was made into a preserve known as mermelada, still quite common there, which was corrupted into marmalade, a preserve made from citrus fruits that we know so well today.

The quince is the ugly duckling of the fruit world in many ways, a bit like a fat knobby pear with a queasy yellowish tone and a slightly furry texture over the skin. For anyone who has not encountered the quince it is not really the kind of fruit one can just pick from the tree and take a bite of. Apart from the fact that you may lose a few teeth, they are really quite firm and are not going to taste that great even if you do manage to bite into them. However, in the Middle East and rather bizarrely Uruguay, they are often eaten raw,

however they are blotted, which means they are over ripened and softened by frost, (much like the medlar) before they are considered palatable. I tried this once a couple of years ago. I will not be repeating it.

It turns into a swan when it is cooked. The flesh when slowly cooked in a little water with the addition of some sugar, turns a beautiful pink colour and releases a lovely perfumed aroma. They were in fact, so pleasingly aromatic, that in days gone by they were also used to perfume households - a sort of medieval Glade Plug-in. They can also be chopped into a tagine, a highly aromatic and spiced North African slow-cooked stew featuring meat and fruit.

Quince are quite acidic, but also have a lot of natural pectin, which makes them ideal for jellies and preserves. The seeds also contain a little hydrogen cyanide so go steady on them!

## Quince Jelly

Chop the quince and put them into a preserving pan with sufficient water to just cover them.

Simmer until tender (about two to three hours) and the fruit is reduced to a pulp

Strain the pulp through a jelly bag into another pan and for each pint of juice obtained add a pound of sugar. Bring to the boil dissolving the sugar and simmer until it reaches 108 degrees C or it sets into a jelly if you drizzle a little on a cold plate

You can add the same proportion of sugar to the left over pulp and bring that back to a simmer, and this will make a membrillo or a quince jam traditionally served in Spain with manchego cheese, but just as good with any of the fine range of strong flavoured West Country cheeses, especially a goats cheese like Woolsery.

## Quince Gin

For a festive treat you can also make Quince Gin,

- 1 lb Quince flesh
- 1lb sugar
- 1 bottle of gin
- Put all ingredients in a jar with a tightly sealable lid
- Shake the jar every couple of days and it should be ready just in time for Christmas
- Serve with or without mince pies

**Ian Simpson**

## GET CRACKING

By Wendy Knee



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# The Coach And Horses



**This interesting photograph taken by Cyril Hider of Bridport in the 1930's shows the imposing Coach and Horses which still stands, though long since ceasing to be run as a business and now divided into apartments.** Alongside it is an open top vehicle being driven by Billy Gear who briefly ran his Garage at the rear of the Hotel, before moving to a more permanent site in the centre of The Street. Two young boys can be seen posing outside Marsh's the Butcher, which is now The Garden Party.

If the layers of paint were removed from the buildings they would be seen to have changed little over the years. Though in the past the Coach and Horses was the focus of the important coaching trade that passed through Charmouth, the building we see today replaced a much earlier Inn that stood on the same site until 1882 when it was destroyed in a fire. It was one of a number of fine thatched buildings that went the same way towards the end of the 19th Century in the village.

It was originally called the Three Crowns when it was owned by William Edwards in 1809 and occupied by James Bradbeer, who was also the postmaster. The earliest directory for Charmouth shows that in 1840 there were four coaches leaving and returning each day to the Inn from Exeter, London and Southampton. William Foss is shown as the Inn Keeper and the Census of the following year reveal him living with his wife and seven children at the property. In the same year, Charmouth was to have its Tithe Map produced which is very detailed and shows the building being owned by Bowden Gundry & Co.(Bridport Brewers) with a garden and outbuildings extending a considerable distance back from the Street.

Records for Charmouth show that in 1760 a Mail coach killed a man and in 1805 a Balloon coach overturned killing Ann Pitt. The Inn had a number of owners and tenants over the years, but the most famous was George Holly whose sign can be seen in the earlier photograph. He was to change the name to the present day Coach and Horses and in 1849 was presented with a silver coffee pot for paying for the funeral of a visitor who accidentally drowned in the sea.

With the opening of the Bridport Railway in 1858 there was to be a horse omnibus running from Lyme through Charmouth each day. In 1882, The Old Inn was rebuilt but Holly did not return as he was unhappy with the owners about its replacement and instead he continued to live in Charmouth House at the junction of The Street and Higher Sea Lane, which he was already running as a hotel.

The landlords who followed were Ingram and then Pagan, who married Ingram's daughter. At Pagan's death his widow married Morgan, who kept the grocer's shop opposite and took over the licence. He also bought the Axminster bus from William, the son of George Holly and started the first motor 'bus'. The stables that used to extend as far as the lawn tennis courts were pulled down and modern garages and an annex to the hotel were built. In time it was to be the buses that were to replace the coaches and to this day still stop off near to the former Coach and Horses. It is fascinating looking through old Charmouth Guides that are full of adverts for Hotels and Guesthouses that have long since disappeared. Sadly, The Coach and Horses was to be one of those lost when it was no longer viable and was converted into apartments.

**Neil Mattingly (The Pavey Group)**

*The Coach And Horses  
Pre 1882*



## Charmouth Stores

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# Stuart Matthews (1942 – 2010)



**There was standing room only at St Andrew's Church on 30th June as two-hundred-and-thirty family members and friends gathered for Stuart Matthews' Thanksgiving Service.**

Stuart Alfred Charles Matthews was born in Axminster in 1942. His great-great grandfather was Harbour master at Dover in the 1800s and, from his earliest

days, Stuart was also drawn to the sea. He wanted to join the Navy, but one of his parents refused to sign the papers. So after he left school at 15, he worked as a carpenter in Chard for a short period before commencing employment with Axminster Carpets; a career that was to span 52 years.

In 1959, at a dance at Wootton Fitzpaine Hall, Stuart met Jill Linthorne, a local girl from Bridge Road. Four years later the couple were married in St Andrew's Church and, after a period living with Jill's parents, they moved to their own house in Ellesdon. Stuart proved a dutiful father to the couple's children: Julian, Clare and Hugh. Clare recalls the bedtime stories he read to them every night, the polished school shoes he lined up for the next day and the cooked breakfasts he made before they set out for school. "It was all part of our routine," she says.

In his teenage years, Stuart was a volunteer in the Auxiliary Fire Service when Charmouth Fire Station was located opposite The George in Pear Close. He subsequently became a Retained Firefighter at the then new Fire Station in Bridge Road. Over the years he was called out to many large heath fires at Cain's Folly on Stonebarrow Hill and nearby house fires, but Jill particularly remembers one call-out when he was away for 36 hours. "We didn't know where he was, so I listened to the radio and heard that there was a large container ship fire in Weymouth. Then I realised." Every year Stuart joined other local firemen acting as

waiters at the village harvest supper in the Community Hall. He remained in the Fire Service until his first heart attack at 46 years-of-age.

In his younger days, Stuart played football in Axminster and often went shooting with Scott Bentley from Abbott's Wootton and George Smith from Whitchurch Canonorum. Clare remembers that there was always something hanging outside the back door... fish, rabbits, pigeons. Stuart enjoyed gardening and for many years he worked in the garden at Thalatta in Higher Sea Lane when the house and neighbouring Red Bungalow were owned by Sir Sidney and Lady Barratt. They regularly drove to Charmouth from Bath, and Jill remembers the frequent occasions when Sir Sidney phoned Stuart for help to retrieve his old Morris Minor from the ditch.

In the 1980s Jill put Stuart's name forward for Westward Television's *Treasure Hunt*. Not only was he selected to appear on the show with compere Keith Fordyce, but he also secured the Golden Key and won the night's cash prize. A similar amount was donated to his named lifeboat station.

Stuart loved the sea and fished all over the world, his telescopic fishing rod always finding a place in his suitcase. He was one of the stalwarts of the local fishing community, a member of the fishing club and part of a group (with Doug Genge, Peter Bide and Ron Oxenbury) that succeeded in getting a light fixed to the apex of the Heritage Centre building so that boats could be safely guided onto the beach. His clinker boat Clare Jane I, named after his daughter, was moored on the beach for many years, as was its successor, Clare Jane II. "Stuart went out in the morning with sixteen pots and returned at night with a couple of hundred mackerel, which the children would sell for 6d (2½p) each" says Jill. "Stuart would love to have been an active member of the RNLI but, living in Charmouth, he couldn't get to Lyme Regis in the allotted four minutes." He continued fishing after his first heart attack, but his health gradually deteriorated. "Over the years Stuart went to Harefield Hospital for tests but, when the hope of a transplant faded, he found it difficult to accept that he couldn't go down to the beach and cast his boat off by himself," adds Jill.

Stuart was Scoutmaster in Axminster in his youth and, latterly, helped with Scouts, Cubs and Guides in Charmouth. He was also a Freemason, and an active member of the Charmouth/Asnelles-sur-Mer Twinning Group from its inception in 1985, being Chairman for two years. He and Jill enjoyed many twinning visits and he was asked to lay the wreath at the Asnelles memorial to mark the 55th anniversary of the D-Day landing; the only non-military person to do so.

"Dad was a kind, mild-mannered man - always willing to help anyone. He was very practical; if you couldn't buy something, he'd make it," notes Clare. "He never lost his temper and when he made friends it was with all age groups and for life. He was very close to his grandchildren. My daughter, Victoria, wrote and read a poem entitled 'Grandpa' at the Thanksgiving Service."

Stuart became head of department at Axminster Carpets and was still retained by the firm as a consultant when he died. Many of the staff attended the service. Donations to the RNLI and Peninsula Diabetic Research were requested in lieu of flowers and £909 was given to those organisations in Stuart's name.

**Lesley Dunlop**

## Paint a Pot *with Whoopsadaisy!*

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# Clickety Clack for Kenya

**Just over a year ago we began selling, on Nicky Mclachlan's behalf, the crafts she purchases from the Masai market in Kenya where she and her daughter Sophie work tirelessly to improve the lives of as many people as they can.** Having been involved in Fair trade for more years than I care remember, we were delighted to be involved. We have always believed that poverty can be greatly improved through trade and here we were able to offer a market for Nicky which meant that not only the crafters received a sale but all of the profit from selling their talent in this country could be returned directly to their own country, to help where it is most needed. It can't get any fairer than that!

Some of the money from these sales has gone to a rural school and orphanage set up, with little resources or support, by Newton Atela. We have followed the progress that Nicky and Sophie have made through the many photographs they bring home. Very exciting for all concerned was that Newton was granted a visa and lived with the Mclachlans here in Charmouth for four weeks during the summer and we actually got to meet him. He walked into Ida's with the biggest, most honest smile I have ever seen and we gave him his first cream tea!

We talked at great length over the problems he faced and the children he cared for – 256 local children come to learn and have lunch, something that is by no means guaranteed for any of them – for around 50 it is also their home. On one such visit he sat in on our knit and stitch club – it became clear very quickly that Sophie needed instruction in this pastime as much as he did! He made us laugh and he touched a nerve when he talked of how cold it is at night and what little there is to keep them warm. Within seconds of him leaving, the "ladies that knit" were on the case and *Knit for Newton* had begun. Donated wool arrived within days, and jumpers, snoods, hats and blanket squares were soon on the go – holiday makers even borrowed needles and knitted on the beach! When I told Newton what was happening he said "Those ladies are lovely, thank them soooo much!" I don't think it occurred to either him or me that fingers would be working fast enough to put the first of the jumpers in Nicky and Sophie's suitcases when they left for Kenya just a couple of weeks later. Two weeks after that

the pictures of two little boys wearing them are on display at Idas.

These two little orphan boys, have also lost their older brother.

When I showed the photos to the knitting club they didn't have a lot to say but quietly got out their needles to work on another jumper. Newton asked me to thank you so much, so here it is ladies, **from the children, from Newton, from Nicky and Sophie and very much from me.**



*The two orphan boys wearing the first jumpers*

The knitting club runs on Thursday afternoons from 2 – 3.30pm. £1.00 for tea and cake donated by Idas. All are welcome and you don't have to knit for Kenya. The money raised will be used towards the costs involved in getting the Hatcher family to Kenya to, among other things, teach some of the older children how to knit for themselves.

On a personal note – I'm sure many of you are aware that we are moving on. After a lot of soul searching and a great deal of regret – we love our shop and living in Charmouth but we feel that at this time in their lives our children need more from us than we are currently able to give, and when an offer was made for the shop, we accepted it and put our house on the market. It is our intention to stay within the vicinity of Woodroffe and we hope to set up something similar to Ida's, but a little more sedately, and hopefully in premises where we can do all our working and living under one roof.

At the time of writing it is all in early stages and we expect to be around for some time yet. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support through the years and we will continue to be involved with Nicky and Sophie wherever we are, so keep on bringing in that wool!

**Val Hatcher**

## Teddies for Tragedies Need Knitters!

**Could you please spare an hour or two to knit a little teddy?** Doctors who treat children in third world or war torn countries are asking for them, as they have found that children who have their own teddies to cuddle in their cots get better quicker than those who don't have one. Each child keeps his own teddy and can take it home, so the doctors need a continual supply.

Teddies for Tragedies started in 1986 when some knitted teddies were added to a consignment of medicines going to a refugee camp in the Sudan. The doctors were as thrilled as the children: 'These teddies do more good than the medicines. They cheer the children up, give them hope, and soon they are on the road to recovery.' Teddy knitting began and teddies were added to each consignment of medicine, helping the children to recover and play.

The name Teddies for Tragedies was first used in Guildford, Surrey in 1991 and from small beginnings the movement grew. There are now many branches throughout the UK. Each branch is largely autonomous and collects, checks and

packs teddies to send to locally supported aid groups and charities who work with children in tragic circumstances. The aim was and continues to be, to help coordinate teddy production and delivery. Putting knitters in touch with local needs and charities in touch with local supplies plus finding more people who'll take teddies to needy children.

Charities take teddies, but not just charities. Volunteers, including school groups, take teddies in their 10's and 1000's. Help the teddies to travel. If you know any charities, volunteers or aid workers who could deliver some where they are needed, let them know about the scheme. Help promote the teddies on your blog or amongst your crafty friends.

If you would like to help you can pick up a pattern (and some wool!) at our local Charmouth Post Office or Ida's.

Visit **[www.teddiesfortragedies.org.uk](http://www.teddiesfortragedies.org.uk)**

Or Contact Sophie on: (01297) 560270

# St. Andrew's Parish Church

**St. Andrew's Congregation has enjoyed a busy summer, like most of us in the village, with the big influx of holidaymakers.** We have held a number of special Services with our visitors: Twins being baptised in a special Family Service, two Services with brass bands, a series of six Songs of Praise in a tent at Manor Farm (with our URC friends). We also have held various fund raising events: cake and produce stalls and involvement in the Charmouth Village Fayre with a game called Stairway to Heaven! Our one disappointment is that our Beachfront Songs of Praise had to be relocated into St. Andrew's because of a rare event – a wet afternoon! But we shall try again next year.

So, we now look towards the autumn. The big event in Church life at this season of the year is our **Harvest Festival**. This takes place on **Sunday 10th October** at our usual Service time of 9.30am. Gifts of harvest produce will be most welcome – either brought beforehand or even better, brought up in the Service itself. We will include a special feature which I'm calling: Multiply your Talents! Afterwards we will hold our Harvest Lunch with Catherston Leweston Church at 12.30pm for 1pm in the Village Hall, Wesley Close. Please obtain tickets in advance from Pauline

Berridge or Mary Macnair; everyone will be most welcome for a lovely lunch!

Beyond Harvest we look towards **Remembrance Sunday on 14th November** as our next big Service. We begin with the traditional procession from the War Memorial where wreaths are placed at 10.45am. We then march down to St. Andrew's for a special Service, with the Royal British Legion, youth uniformed groups, parish councillors and others. Do join us for this remembrance of all our military who have fought for ours and other's freedoms.



## How To Make £3,000!



*Maralyn Hinxman, Felicity Horton, Julie Renfrew and Liz Scott*

**Ingredients - a good idea, a great team of helpers and lots of supporters willing to donate sums of money, but above all a passion for the cause.**

On a Friday in early July a group of friends planned an amazing event - starting off with coffee and cakes - all donated - in a lovely garden, followed by a two-course lunch with wine (chicken gazpacho or salmon and fabulous sweets), all of which were donated, finishing with Pimms and canapes and a grand raffle draw in the evening. We supported BLESMA (the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association) because it has been actively involved in the support of injured and disabled ex-servicemen for 60 years, but is less well known than the Royal British Legion or Help for Heroes.

**Maralyn Hinxman**

Photos from the BLESMA event may be viewed/purchased at [www.photoboxgallery.com/neilbigwood](http://www.photoboxgallery.com/neilbigwood) All profits from sales go to BLESMA.

Please check out [www.blesma.org](http://www.blesma.org) for information on BLESMA's two homes for ex-service amputees, its new respite and rehabilitation facilities and its unique welfare visiting service.

I can update you on our **building project**. We are undertaking the first phase of this as soon as possible, in case our VAT exemption ends in March 2011. The work sounds very unglamorous, but is very important – repairs to the stonework and mortar on the tower and nave of the building, to make it safe and watertight. Our Architect says that this will take about 3 months, and necessitate scaffolding on the outside of the church throughout this period. At the same time we will repaint the clock. The cost will be around £58,000 (excluding VAT). We have obtained some Grants to help with this work, for example from the Dorset Historic Churches Trust. But we will need to raise a lot of money from our church members and local people. To this objective we are looking to hold a special Gift Day at the end of November, to coincide with St. Andrew's Day. More details later, but contributions in the meantime would be most appreciated!

Finally, we say 'Good Bye' to our long serving Organist Heather Fairhead, at the beginning of September. She and Russell are moving to Basingstoke. We thank them hugely for their kind and godly involvement in our Church, and pray God's blessing upon their move. Heather's place on the organ seat will be taken by Kim Redford, a young and hugely gifted lady, who also lives in our village. We look forward to the dynamic sounds she will produce from our organ!

My wife, Revd Jane Skinner (now Team Vicar with special responsibility for Lyme Regis), and myself are still scheduled to move to Lyme Regis, by the decision of the Diocese (who purchase clergy houses). But we are now highly unlikely to move there until 2011. We'll keep you posted!

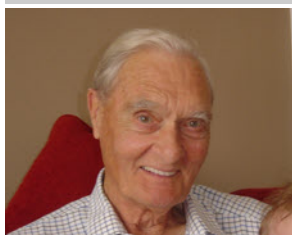
**Revd Stephen Skinner, Team Rector.**

### Births

Mark and Vicki Whatmore became proud parents to Archie John on Friday July 30th. Grandparents Ted and Pat Whatmore and Steve and Maggie Pratt are absolutely thrilled with their new grandson and we wish all the family our warmest congratulations for the joy Archie will bring to their lives.

**Pauline Berridge**

# Harold Frederick Jopson (10.9.25 – 27.8.10)



**Over 100 people attended a thanksgiving service for Harold's life on Friday 10th September 2010 (his 85th birthday) at St Andrew's, Charmouth.** Those present heard tributes to Harold from an ex-work colleague Don Jones, his sister-in-law Pauline and his sons Tony & Phil.

Harold was born in 1925 in Upminster, Essex. His family moved to East Ham in London in 1929 where he attended the local boys Grammar School until 1939 when on the outbreak of the war the school was evacuated to Swindon. In 1941 Harold gained his School Certificate and joined Barclays Bank.

When he turned 18, Harold joined the Navy and was posted to the West Indies where he arrived on VE Day to decommission the Naval Base, HMS Benbow, in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

On demobilisation, Harold trained and qualified as a secondary school teacher of religious education and history. He later combined these skills with his commercial experience and in 1965 was appointed as a trainer of teachers at Redland College, Bristol (now part of the university), where he stayed until his early retirement in 1982.

Harold met Jean through St Barnabus church in East Ham, where he was a Sunday School teacher. They married in 1955 and both got posts in teaching in Southampton where Tony (1961) & Phil (1963) were born to them.

In 1997 Harold & Jean moved to Charmouth where the coast and countryside fulfilled a dream of rural life. Harold was well known by Charmouth residents for the bright yellow hat he regularly wore on his daily walks round the village. Harold really enjoyed the last 12 years of his life in Charmouth, where he and Jean made many good friends.

Throughout his life, Harold was an active Christian and served variously as sacristan and server, Secretary of PCC, Treasurer in 3 different churches, editor of the parish magazine and house church leader. He always loved church liturgy and church music.

Harold was a keen family man. He is survived by his wife Jean, 2 sons Tony & Phil, their wives and his grandchildren Abi (14), Holly (5) and Sophia (17 months). A loving father, grandfather, husband, uncle and friend, he will be missed very much by all who knew him.

Knowing Harold had faith in Jesus Christ gives the family comfort and confidence of his eternal destiny. As his granddaughter Holly said recently, "Granddad is playing with God now isn't he Daddy?"

**Tony Jopson**

## Twinning Association

**Charmouth Twinning Association is holding an 'Auction of Promises' on Saturday 16th October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall at Wesley Close.**

All are welcome to come along and bid for various gifts and promises which range from sewing instruction/tennis coaching sessions to a weekend in a holiday caravan with nearby fishing lakes or a week or fortnight's free accommodation in a beautiful villa in Italy.

Ready available gifts (can be bid for) to take away on the night and will range from home made iced Christmas cake, Chocolate Gateaux, to luxury hampers.

Novelty 'promises' already on offer are:- a mackerel fishing trip in small boat, 'holiday' dog walking, car valet, airport run, 'holiday' lawn cutting and many, many more.

**Entry is free** so come along - you may pick up a bargain and will certainly enjoy this fun evening.

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## Mary's Meals

**Marys Meals is an international movement which sets up school feeding projects in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education.** In October 2009 I was inspired to fund raise for this charity whilst I was drinking a glass of wine. The price of a glass would have fed a child for 10 weeks. No, it was not a really expensive wine, but it did make me examine my conscience.

In the last year, with 3 small fund raising events, we managed to raise £1250, plus I am aware of individuals who have sent in their own personal donations. This made me think that perhaps we could look at funding a school in Malawi by raising £7000, which would build a kitchen, plus extras, and we would have the school named after us. This will allow us to have ongoing contact with the school in future years. For example young people could take a gap year and make this a living project.

This Autumn, I am organising a '**SOUP and a PUD**' day on **Weds 27 Oct** in Charmouth Community Hall from 11.00am until 3.00pm. The cost will be £5 and kids eat for free!

Last year's SOUP and a PUD day raised £780 and it was such a happy occasion. The sun was shining and we had no problems, although friends who turned up to help did have to make more soup and they sent me out of the kitchen!

I would be happy to take any items you do not want to sell in aid of Mary's Meals such as vegetables, bric-a-brac, jars of jam etc. Please leave them in the porch at 2 The Manor, The Street (opposite St Andrew's Church), Charmouth.

**Hilary Sharp** 01297 560639 [www.marysmeals.org](http://www.marysmeals.org)



# Coast Path Closures Update

**Many of you will know that the South West Coast Path either side of Charmouth has been closed for many years due to landslips.** A brief but welcome respite happened in 2006 when the section above Cain's Folly was re-opened, before being closed again in February 2008, having been destroyed by the spectacular landslide that continues to develop to this day. An unfortunate consequence of the closures is the lengthy route diversions that take walkers inland and along sections of road. It is an unsatisfactory situation for all concerned.

As a Service responsible for maintaining the path we have for years been battling nature and the very processes that maintain our beautiful and internationally important coastline. A static, linear legal right of passage, which essentially is what a public footpath is, will never stand much chance along a coast as dynamic and susceptible to change as West Dorset. History, public expense and years of Coast Path closures have made that abundantly clear. But all this seemed to be about to change....

The South West Coast Path is a National Trail and has to date attracted national funding, through Natural England, to maintain it. Funding for re-establishment works, following closures like we have either side of Charmouth, has been frozen for several years due to the possibility of new rights of coastal access coming into effect. These rights finally became law in the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. The

rights provide, in certain circumstances, for 'future proofing', so that the trail can automatically 'roll back' in response to coastal change.

The first section of coast to have these new rights introduced is Weymouth Bay, in time for the Olympic and Paralympic sailing events in 2012. Natural England then planned to introduce the new rights to other sections of the English coast over a period of years, with no announcement made yet for the coast around Charmouth and Lyme Regis. Whilst the Weymouth Bay project now seems certain to proceed, due to budgetary cuts there is likely to be a reduction in the scope of the programme elsewhere. More will be known following the forthcoming comprehensive spending review.

## Charmouth bridge replacement project

It is hoped that work on replacing the footbridge over the River Char will commence early in the New Year. Whilst the works are taking place the engineers are planning to minimise inconvenience to walkers by putting in place a temporary structure south of the present bridge, although this may not be available for use at all states of the tide or during extreme weather conditions.

**John Hayes, Senior Coastal Ranger. DCC.**

# Community Police Report

**Hello again. It has been a busy time for us all here at Bridport; not just crime fighting but dealing with the seasonal influx and the school holidays.**

Community Speed Watch has commenced at Chideock - a group of local residents have become police volunteers, their purpose is to monitor vehicle speeds in the Chideock area and report the details to the police.

Contrary to some suggestions, they are not community spies. They are insured, they are police volunteers with collar numbers, they have been vetted, they are in addition to the camera and any other enforcement and it something they asked to do. I welcome the formation of the group, any extra assistance we get is a bonus.

You are aware that one of the cameras in Chideock was fire damaged, this has now been replaced with a new fully operational unit, there are no plans to scrap the cameras or disband the Safety Camera Partnership.

Regarding heating oil and diesel, we're starting to get reports of thefts but also we're getting reports of thieves

being thwarted by the alarms that I have previously mentioned. Anyone interested in alarming their oil tanks can contact me and I will pass you details of the installers - prices start from £130.00 + vat.

There has been an increase in complaints of drunken youths in the area. This is unusual so we have tasked dedicated patrols to cover these 'hot spots'. Someone is providing these youths with the alcohol and they are meeting in parks and play areas, pooling the booze and getting drunk. This has to stop. I am pretty sure that drunken acts are the cause of the damage to the beach huts. Young people cannot handle alcohol - in a group they are 'egged on' to drink more and more, I recently was in Barrs Lane and took vodka, strong cider and strong lager from a group, the youngest was only 14.

That's it for this issue, take care on the road, check your lights and carry a torch if out walking in the lanes.

**PC Chris Forshaw.**

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# Jazz Cafe Nights in Bridport



**I've lived in Charmouth for nearly five years now and often thought about how to bring more jazz to the area.** Over the years as a jazz pianist I've played at many different venues including Ronnie Scotts and Birmingham Symphony Hall. I continue to tour the UK with my different projects, particularly my jazz quartet and my Afrobeat band 'ZubopGambia', and I was thrilled when Bridport Arts Centre asked me to organise a monthly jazz event in their café. There will be a performance on every second Friday of the month. As part

of the evenings there will be an opportunity for anyone to join in on a short open mic/jam session, so please feel free to bring along your voice or instrument.

On the October 8th Jazz Café I'll have the privilege of accompanying Somerset based singer Julie Dunn. She'll be singing some well loved and some lesser known songs from her latest album, "What's it All About". She was reviewed in Vortex Jazz as "a class act-warm, compelling, with an intelligent attitude to lyrics"; I can attest to the latter as she has written lyrics to some of my own compositions, and I'm hoping she'll sing some of those on the night as well.

On Friday November 12th I'll be playing the piano with the excellent Ben Taylor, a double bass player who lives in

Lyme Regis. In fact I have to say that I think there is more musical talent per square mile in this area than anywhere I've lived before!

We'll include pieces by Sonny Rollins, Duke Ellington and Miles Davis. I'll also be presenting some of the compositions from my new album "Sennen Cove," (on sale at Ida's in the village) many of which are inspired by the South West coastline.

I like to write music which is lively-I was born in South Africa and I love the rhythms and immediacy of African music and bring these into my compositions; I also love Latin American music so you'll hear some samba and bossa nova in there as well. I was delighted when Selwyn Harris of Jazzwise Magazine said this about the CD : "Clouts swings with rhythmic deliberation and a crystal sense of phrasing on this refreshing, most enjoyable album... the title track makes Sennen Cove sound like a place of fun as well as adventure with its Afro-Cuban lilt"

On December 10th I'll be accompanying Bridport singer Angelica Kennard. Angelica loves the gospel side of jazz and has performed her gutsy take on it with her band 'Mood Indigo' at many local events. She'll also be showing her more introspective side in an evening she has entitled "Personal songs and conversations."

The Jazz Café evenings are at Bridport Arts Centre, South Street, Bridport, DT6 3NR 8pm £6 Box Office 01308 424204.

Please contact me if you would like to be on a mailing list for future jazz events: [pclouts@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pclouts@yahoo.co.uk)

**Philip Clouts**



**Charmouth thespians Mike Whatmore, Richard Stirk, Jan Bearpark and Linda Crawford will be appearing in DAD'S ARMY at the Marine Theatre from Wednesday 27th October until Saturday 30th. Tickets are available from Lyme Regis TIC. Book early to avoid disappointment .**

## A selection of autumn courses at Monkton Wyld Court

For further information contact  
[info@monktonwyldcourt.org](mailto:info@monktonwyldcourt.org)

### October 1st - 3rd

Dowsing for Healing with Alan Neal

### October 8th - 10th

Biodynamic Gardening with Marina O'Connell

### October 8th - 10th

Stress Reduction Through Mindfulness with Sue Howse

### October 15th - 18th

Low-Impact Smallholding Survey with Simon Fairlie

### October 25th - 30th

Halloween Family Week

### October 30th

Dinner & Music: Folkadelica

### November 13th

Holiday Willow Weaving with Norah Kennedy

and **most Thursdays** (weather permitting)  
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# Charmouth Natural History Group

**For the March outing, instead of Kimmeridge as planned, our group went to Radipole Lake and then on to the Fleet.** The weather was kind to us and was sunny and warm. March can be a funny month in bird terms -we have few winter visitors still left and the spring/summer visitors are just starting to arrive. Occasionally a special bird turns up.

Most of the bird life was around the visitor centre with a black tail godwit in summer plumage, fifteen snipe probing for food in the outskirts of the reed bed, the famous hooded merganser and six great crested grebe with a single little grebe. Then we moved onto the Fleet and saw on the board at Radipole Lake a bufflehead duck, an American visitor which is very, very rare to see. So we went off, hoping to see the bird. Along the way we saw three ringed plover, eight redshank, three garganeys (a summer visitor) and a male wigeon. But there it was, a male bufflehead - only the second one I've seen and the first in Dorset!! April's outing was to Dawlish Warren Nature Reserve; our main reason to visit was to see the sand crocus, which we saw in great numbers. It's not the usual standard crocus, it is a very small open flower which is off-white in colour. Also we saw early meadow grass, stonecrop, petalwort, small adder tongue and upright chickweed, all fairly rare in Devon as most of these plants need sandy conditions to survive. Birds from the hide and en route were pale belly brent geese, whimbrel, sanderling, water rail, sedge warblers and dunlin. For the May outing, instead of going to Stourhead as planned, our group went to Powerstock Common. It was a warm sunny day and the variety of butterflies on show was brilliant. We saw clouded yellow, dingy skipper, grizzle skipper, wall and common blue, to name but a few. Flowers on show were bluebell, yellow pimpernel, yellow archangel, cut leaved cranesbill, early purple orchid and wild strawberry, a food plant for the dingy skipper butterfly. Birds we spotted were cuckoo, redstart, yellowhammer, garden warbler, and the tree pipit - one of few sightings of this bird here in Dorset. Bugwise we saw four spotted chasers, oil beetles, and two different species of spider.

On 6th July our planned evening walk to Hardown Hill above Morcombelake took place. Unfortunately the weather

was slightly against us with fairly strong winds, but at least it was dry! Our group normally only having 6-8 people had about 15 this time because some Dorset Wildlife Trust members joined our group when they couldn't join their group to Hardown Hill. We set off up the hill and, as we approached the top, we saw a fairly large bat flying above our heads. After a few minutes we decided that it was a greater horseshoe bat - a fairly rare sighting as all species of bat are under threat. We walked to the bat roost hoping to see the bats in the cave but they had already left. While we were watching the bats flying around the roost, we started to hear the nightjars in the trees churring above us. We left the roost site after going through a gate and retracing our steps in the hedgerow, saw a single glow-worm glowing. I felt rather sorry for it as it was all by itself. As we slowly went back to the cars along the top of the hill we managed to see our first nightjar of the evening and a bit further along we saw couple more. In a small farmyard area we tried to see more glow-worms but didn't. On 17th August the group went to Tyneham Village near Lulworth. The weather started off poor, so what we hoped to see, butterflies and flowers on the army land, didn't happen. So we looked around the village - a strange place - but while we were looking around I heard green woodpecker, nuthatch, raven, long tail tits, and a chiffchaff. The rain eventually stopped, so we had our lunch. Afterwards we decided to walk to Worbarrow Bay, a 30 minute walk. The sun came out, the temperature soared and along the way we saw a small white, a gatekeeper, a common blue and a speckled wood. We spotted a sparrowhawk, a family of stonechats, southern hawker dragonflies and heard a peregrine.

Between May and September, The following birds have been sighted on the sea and the River Char; 79 gannets, 1 balearic shearwater, 3 kittiwake, 17 shags, 5 cormorants, 9 sandwich Terns, 1 storm petrel, 2 oyster catchers, 2 common scoter, 3 great skuas, 1 juv hobby flying back to Africa, 1 sand martin, 2 juv ringed plover, 1 common tern, 2 sightings of the kingfisher, reed buntings, reed warblers, 2 sedge warblers, moorhens and lots of house martins and swallows.

On the 26th March 3 gannets, 2 great crested grebe 2 4th year Gannets, 2 Southern Hawker Dragonflies and 1 little gull were spotted. A harlequin ladybird flew onto my tripod, and, in the distance, The Red Arrows flying display team made their way across the sky.

Next event - 21st September to Portland Bill, meeting at the WDDC car park, at 9.00am.  
Meetings are every 3rd Tuesday of each month.  
Contact Kate Stapleton for further details on 560255.

**Kate Stapleton**

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# Charmouth Gardeners

**The Charmouth Gardeners Club is a long-established part of the village life.** As in many other local groups, activity and participation are less energetic as we get older but we still maintain a full programme throughout the year. There are monthly outings in the summer (apart from in August when we focus on the Flower Show) and speaker meetings and social meals in the winter months.

We would like to invite non – members to come along and see what we do. Our last outing was to the Cheese, Chutney and Cider festival at Hestercombe Gardens in September.

No advance notice is necessary if you'd like to come along to our Wednesday talks. On **October 13th**, the meeting is a bit special so why don't you join us at **7.30pm** for a glass of wine, the presentation of the Show trophies and a talk by Bob Symes on Daffodils?

The **November 10th** meeting starts at **2.30pm** as the evenings are now less conducive to venturing out. Martin Catford, one of Saga Holidays gardening hosts will be

talking on Tresco and the Scilly Isles. No wine served but we do a good cup of tea! A nominal charge at the door is made for attendance at the talks.

We go to Eype's Mouth Hotel on **8th December** for our Christmas lunch.

Our membership stands at nearly 200 but seldom do we all get together. We'd love to have your ideas for new activities – more social events? Seed and plant swaps? Sales of bedding plants/vegetables or surplus garden produce? Could we get together in any way with the new allotment holders?

If you would like to be a member, the cost is £3.00 pa. Membership entitles you to a 10% discount on gardening items in Morgans. Contact Kay Churchman on 560980.

Hoping to hear from you!

**Gardeners Club Committee**

## Dorset POPP Wayfinders

**56 Wayfinders are managed by Age Concerns in Dorset and are based in communities across the county.** They provide information and signposting to people who are 50 and above. The Wayfinder acts as the link between the client and a range of partner services for example the Pension Service, Dorset Fire and Rescue and the Police. They can provide information about social opportunities, learning new skills, transport, benefits and aids and adaptations around the home. Between September 2008 and February 2009 Wayfinders had contact with 24,358,00 people in Dorset

Wayfinder Central Number (10 am - 4 pm) for assistance on 01305 213345

You can make an email enquiry for assistance at [sandi@acdorchester.org](mailto:sandi@acdorchester.org)

To make a general enquiry [wayfindersinfo@acdorchester.org](mailto:wayfindersinfo@acdorchester.org)

## Bracing Charmouth for over 60's



*Charmouth over 60's frolic in the waves after a 40km afternoon cycle ride!*

## Success For Local Artist



**Well-respected local artist Peter Bagley has had one of his paintings accepted for the Parkinson's UK national charity calendar.** The quality Mervyn Peake Awards calendar for 2011 includes an inspiring selection of members' paintings, photographs and poetry. Peter's beautiful painting 'Season of Mists', pictured here, has been chosen as the main illustration for the month of October.

The calendar makes an ideal Christmas gift and is available now from the Events Department, Parkinson's UK, 215 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 1EJ (020 7963 9330) for £5.99 plus £1.50 postage. Funds raised from the sale of the calendar help Parkinson's UK in its dedicated efforts to find a cure for Parkinson's disease, change attitudes, fund research and help those diagnosed.

Peter was featured in the winter 2009 issue of Shoreline which may be viewed at [www.charmouth.org](http://www.charmouth.org) (click on Shoreline magazine).

**Lesley Dunlop**

# From The Charmouth Practice

## Whoever pays the piper calls the tune.

Another government and another NHS change.

Maybe it is inevitable that every time there is a new government there will be changes in the health service. Governments are elected on the basis of their ideology. A right wing government believes success should be rewarded and a left wing government believes in equality using central control. Unfortunately these changes themselves are a huge problem. The upheavals are expensive and also demoralising as the wheel is constantly reinvented. So what exactly is being changed each time? Local GP Martin Beckers has worked through these changes and has seen them unfold over the past 25 years. The Old Labour government owned all NHS facilities and provided the service centrally, using Health Authorities and FPCs to administer the services locally. This was cheap with low management costs, but without the data collection that has to be done today, the cost effectiveness could not be measured. In 1990 Margaret Thatcher's government wanted a free market, so the NHS was split into purchasers and providers. The Health Authorities and the new "Fundholding GPs" could buy "best deals" with their budgets, and the now autonomous hospitals and other providers tried to sell as much as possible.

This is the Internal Market and it was modelled as if the purchasers were shopping on behalf of patients at corner shops and supermarkets. But here we have a problem, because, with competition, some shops will expand and others contract. The result for the health service is that hospitals losing out on competition reduce their income and need to cut their services. With health we all need quality services to be fairly distributed over the country. In addition the government ended up having to fix the prices anyway when it realised they had become so different around the country. It is clear the NHS has difficulty functioning as a market. Not only that, but the administration of the internal market costs 17% of the total NHS budget, or currently £19 billion.

Dorset County Hospital is a case in point. The management invested heavily in facilities and staff to expand the service, believing that the NHS market would ensure that the hospital would attract more custom from outside the area. However the extra patients did not come. The hospital went deeply into debt and had to cut services and reduce staffing levels.

In 1997 New Labour wanted equality, but as a fan of market economics it wanted to keep and strengthen the internal market. It wanted patients to exercise CHOICE. On the whole, however, patients don't want to shop around. In the main they want their local services to be good wherever they live.

Now we have a Con/Lib coalition who are also trying to change the NHS to combine equality and free market but in slightly different measures according to their own ideology. What does this mean in practice? More expensive upheavals and dismantling of the management structure of the Primary Care Trust. GPs will hold the purse strings, but unlike the public perception of this, each GP does not get £2 million for their own practice.

In reality, GPs will have to form large groups of 50 - 60 in a consortium. This consortium will need managers and very soon it will look like the organisation we have now but with some notable GPs in charge. GPs are by nature doctors and not health service managers, so it will be interesting to see who, if anyone, comes forward to do these jobs and just how representative of all GPs they are. And the whole NHS has to dance to the new tune. Hold on to your hats everyone, this is going to be an interesting dance!

**Dr. Sue Beckers.**

(Taken from an article by Dr Martin Beckers.)

## Battlefield Acupuncture

**Recently I attended The British Acupuncture Council Conference in Surrey. One of the workshops was 'Battlefield Acupuncture'**

This was a procedure developed by the U.S. Airforce and initially introduced in 2008 at Landstuhl Regional Medical Centre (LRMC). It was applied to wounded service members and local patients for pain relief, with significant results. The hospital is located in Germany and is the largest military facility outside the U.S.

One of the pain specialists @LRMC recruited his most challenging patients for whom traditional pain treatment offered limited relief. Within minutes of the needles being inserted, many said their pain was reduced by up to 75%. Acupuncture has been found to assist pain relief and in many cases to eliminate the need for medication for acute and chronic pain.

The frequency of treatment varies with each patient, starting at possibly twice a week, then reducing to as little as once a month. In some cases further acupuncture treatments may not be required.

Having attended this workshop and already using this treatment protocol in my clinic, I am interested in pursuing it further. It can be used for acute and chronic pain but is also effective for anxiety, neurosis and any psychological and stress related issues.

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Send in your articles, letters, poems and news of events by 15th December for the winter issue of **Shoreline**.  
[editor@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk](mailto:editor@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk)  
or the address on page 2



# News from Charmouth Primary

**In the words of that seasoned old broadcaster Terry Wogan, "Is it me?"** When I was a lad my memories of the school summer holidays was a time when the sun shone from dawn until dusk and endless time was spent in the park racing about playing football and cricket, partaking in family picnics and pestering my Mum for the occasional Jubbly. In recent times the month of August has meant low cloud, outbreaks of rain and cool temperatures. One can only feel sorry for holiday makers looking for things to do when all their offspring want to do is to get on the beach and enjoy the beautiful coastal environment we are privileged to take pleasure in all year round. The long summer holiday was originally set in place so that the children could help with the harvest of crops – it would have been a soggy harvest this year!

School opened at the beginning of September with 16 children starting in our Reception class. With fourteen years of education in front of them I wonder what the world will be like when they leave in 2025 or looking further ahead to when they retire in 2075! The first day at school is always a landmark in family life and it was good to see we had no tears from either children or parents on the first morning! As well as welcoming the new children to our school we also have new faces on the staff this term. Mrs Tamsin Rowe, our new deputy head will be taking Year 5, Miss Chloe Richards, Year 3 and Miss Naomi White, Reception. We hope they will be very happy working both within school and the local community.

A new year with new teachers means children have a whole range of new things to learn. Our older children will be learning about castles and a visit to Portland Castle has already taken place. Children found out so many things about life in the castle by actually being there and dressing up in period costume. Lower down the school the focus is



on life in the sixties, and it has been good to hear children listening to and sometimes repeating sixties songs. Our youngest children are basing their learning on a portrait by that famous 16th century Italian painter, Giuseppe Arcimboldo which is affectionately known as The Vegetable Man. We all know of children's love of vegetables so they will be getting to find out more about both the familiar and less familiar.

Those of you who use the footpath to the northern boundary of the school, or Hammonds Mead to the south, will have seen we have had the builders in school since June. A new extension has now been completed increasing teaching, office and storage space. There is no doubt that it will be a well-used area by both staff and children. Whilst the building was being completed we also had the entrance hall to the school decorated and new carpet has been laid. The smell of new paint and carpet still lingers and adds to the fresh feel of our school.

By the time you read this article, the shops are already likely to be full of Christmas merchandise. Whilst I do not wish to bring the subject to the forefront of your minds, we will be producing an end of term production, the dress rehearsal of which will be on Monday 13th December at 9.45 am. All members of the community whether they have children in school or not are welcome to join us for this and the children do enjoy performing to an audience!

In the meantime enjoy what is bound to be an Indian summer – it is strange that the weather always seems to settle around the first week in September! So now is a good time to arrange a holiday in the UK.

**Chris Vincent, Headteacher**

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# Martin Farrant, A Memory



**I returned to an England I had left 28 years earlier, I began a search for an England I once knew - I got as far as the Drum & Monkey: I felt I had arrived.**

The Drum was one of the five pubs in the village, it was small and cramped but with a remarkable band of 'regulars' and among these I first met Martin Farrant.

There was quite a selection of bar games in all Palmers pubs in the village in those days. Darts and table skittles were the obvious competitions but cribbage had especial following with the home and away fixtures every Monday night. Quiz night was Sunday. Martin was a constant in these functions and I was asked to join the cribbage and the quiz team: and we did well. It was a warm and friendly and happy place.

The Drum closed in '04 I think- still a source of regret. We transferred to the Oak with our teams intact, and remained active for very many years. In Jeff and Carol's reign there were three cribbage teams and two quiz teams. Rivalry was intense.

Time passed. The last time I saw Martin at the cribbage table might have been the year before last, getting to the pub on his 'chariot' had become increasing difficult for him. This was very sad as this once familiar figure at the Oak was virtually denied his 'trips out' and if it hadn't been for Alan, Martin would not have played at all.

Over the years Martin told me his story in little bits - and what a harrowing history it was. I was witness to twenty years of his gradual decline.

Martin was village born and was fortunate as a boy in gaining entrance to the locally prestigious Whittington School. He did very well and over those years his tennis skills were honed. He became an excellent player reaching county level. He went on to Lyme Grammar School and upon leaving, served an apprenticeship with Shands of Axminster, a large engineering firm, as a toolmaker. This seems to have been a critical point of his life - all that promise faded away.

Martin was or became diabetic. Because of this he could no longer manage the fine work of his trade. Shands went bankrupt and then he had to cope with a failed marriage. He found a job at Eldridge Pope, becoming the manager of their wine shop. He was slowly losing the sight of one eye, and he could no longer drive or keep his job. It is not surprising that in this period of his life he underwent bouts of deep despair. Yet in company he seemed to bounce back every time and his natural or projected good cheer emerged again.

In company he did not behave as an invalid. He was an early member of the Twinning Group; he gave talks on wines - on occasion it is said too enthusiastically -and continued with his cribbage. It was at this time that a very special friendship developed with Ian Pitman and the two of them went on wine tasting excursions to the continent. Another great interest of Martin's was traditional jazz, in

which he was well informed and would be very pleased to extol the talents of King Oliver and defend him from the latecomers to that brilliant musical age.

Inevitably, the slow progress of diabetes took its toll. He underwent a sequence of operations on his feet over several years that ultimately lead to the amputation of a lower leg. This he said, only a matter of weeks ago - with some irony, was the finest thing that ever happened to him - it gave him another 'good time' in that he was far less dependent on his helpers and was very frequently seen in the village on his chariot.

Once again, it did not matter how many friends he had or the great number of well wishers there were, he was at times, a very lonely man. Nevertheless his ability to project good cheer and humour was always there. and being in Martin's company made everyone else feel better.

The image that I cherish of Martin is of his rotund, medieval monkish demeanour- I see him in a corner of the Oak with a pot in hand, replete with grin and chuckle. He was a delight and he deserves a very special place in our memory and in village history.

There is a need to express our gratitude so very sincerely to all those very special people who were close to Martin at St. Andrew's in recent times - particularly Alan who took him to the Oak for his last games of cribbage and then to Maria whose company he cherished and who was with him at the end.

**Peter Press**

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# Policing in the 21st Century

**By 2012, the Coalition Government will have put in place the most radical change in how police forces operate since 1960.** It is proposed that the electorate will have been given the opportunity to elect the Police and crime Commissioner for Dorset including (Bournemouth and Poole) and will be holding him to account for how policing is delivered by Dorset Police. This will happen by:

- The abolition of the Dorset Police Authority and its replacement by directly elected Police and Crime Commissioner - ensuring that the police respond to local priorities and are directly accountable to the general public for delivering safer communities, cutting crime and Anti Social Behaviour.

- Providing information to help the public know what is happening in their area with timely and accurate information about crime, ASB and value for money.

- A more independent Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary who will examine performance and assist communities to hold both the Crime Commissioner and the police force to account

At present, the police are held to account locally by the Dorset Police Authority, established in 1964 to ensure that the appointment of the Chief Constable and holding him to account was independent of local politics by requirement that a third of the members would be magistrates.

This was refined in 1994 to include independent members drawn from local communities. Currently, there are 9 councillors nominated by CC(5), Bournemouth(2) and Poole (2) and six independent members including three magistrates. The main responsibility of the Authority is to secure the maintenance of an efficient and effective police force and to hold the Chief Constable to account for the exercise of his functions and those persons under his control. This is quite separate from the Chief Constable's responsibility which is the control and direction of the Force. In order to achieve this the full Police Authority meet four times a year usually in June, September, December and February. There are several specialist committees which support the work of the Authority, having responsibility for areas such as audit, human resources, professional standards, diversity, and community engagement. These committees also meet on a quarterly basis. Members of the public are welcome at both Police Authority and committee meetings most of which are held at Winfrith police headquarters.

The Coalition Government's view is that Police Authorities remain too invisible to the public and the public are unaware how to influence the way policing is delivered in their area, let alone get involved. Furthermore, there is no

direct way for the public to choose the people who represent them on the Police Authority - only a small percentage of wards elect councillors who are police authority members. It is the lack of perceived accountability which has led to the proposal to abolish Police Authorities and put power directly in the hands of the public. For the first time ever the public will be able to directly vote for an individual to represent their community's policing needs.

The intention is to remove micro-management of police forces by central government in local policing. The new Police and Crime Commissioner will ensure the police are held to account democratically, not bureaucratically by Whitehall. He will have five main roles as part of his mission to fight crime and ASB, namely:

- Representing and engaging with all those who live and work in the communities in their force area and identifying their police needs;

- Setting priorities that meet these needs by agreeing a local plan for the force;

- Holding the Chief Constable to account for achieving these priorities as efficiently as possible and playing a role in community safety;

- Setting the force budget, setting the precept subject to a county wide referendum;

- Appointing - and where necessary, removing - the Chief Constable.

The Government is looking for suitable candidates for Commissioner to come from a wide range of backgrounds, including representatives of political parties and independents. Commissioner will serve for a term of four years and a limit of two terms. The first election for office will take place in May 2012 and it is proposed to use the system of preferential voting. The existing framework for the conduct of local government and parliamentary elections will be applied including the recognised eligibility criteria for standing for public office.

There is no suggestion that the Chief Constable will lose his operational independence and duty to act without fear or favour. Chief Constable will have a clear line of accountability to the Commissioner but will have greater professional freedom to take operational decisions to meet the priorities set for them by their community - via the Commissioner

As you would imagine, the Government is undertaking considerable consultation with Police Authorities, Local Government and the Association of Chief Police Officers in order to come up with workable proposals.

However, there is no doubt that in 2012 there will be in place a Dorset police and Crime Commissioner who will be answerable to the general public for local policing in the county. Watch this space.

**Col. Geoffrey Brierley, Dorset CC**

**Please send us your stories and poems to be included in the Winter issue of Shoreline by the 15th December.**

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# Venturing Abroad

## Heritage Coast U3A comes to Charmouth

The Heritage Coast U3A has a large and growing Charmouth contingent amongst its membership of more than 500. In recognition of this it recently held its Coffee Morning in the Village Hall in Wesley Close. The hall was genuinely buzzing, with an attendance of more than 60 members, some of whom had taken the opportunity to join the organisation. U3A Heritage Coast has over the past five years proved to be one of the most successful U3As in the country. It offers a choice of more than 50 active learning groups dedicated to the fundamental U3A principle of continuous learning, plus monthly talks free to all members. Learning groups include the following subjects.

Languages: French, Italian and Turkish

Crafts: Jewellery-making, "Needles & Stitches", Painting, Pottery

Health: Quigong, Relaxation & Breathing

Music & Books: Book group, Creative writing, Jazz appreciation, Literature, Opera appreciation, Play reading, Poetry, Recorders

Technical: Computing for beginners, Digital photography, Digital imaging,

Sport: Croquet, Folk dancing, Short tennis, Table tennis, Tap dancing, Tennis, Walking

Miscellaneous: Antiques, Architecture, Gardening, Geology, Ornithology, Scrabble, Social Psychology, Sunday lunch club, Wild flowers, Wine appreciation

Some groups extend their activities with visits and excursions to theatrical events, gardens, historic houses and other places of interest. Some groups currently have waiting lists and Val Doney (01297 442148), Groups' Co-ordinator, is always interested in hearing from anyone wishing to lead a group.

Our next significant date is Friday October 8th for a Coffee Morning at The Woodmead Halls in Lyme Regis where there will be an opportunity to meet the group leaders between 10.00am and 11.00am, followed by a talk from Anna Sutherland entitled 'Old Dog, New Tricks.'

Friday November 12th, also at The Woodmead Halls, sees our AGM at 10.00 a.m. followed by John Bryant, former Editor-in-Chief of the Daily and Sunday Telegraphs talking about The Olympic Games 2012.

For more information about U3A Heritage Coast contact the Membership Secretary, Mary Bohane, on 01297 444566.



*"Tuesday morning tennis at Charmouth with the U3A"*

## Bridport Car Repair Centre

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## New Faces at Charmouth Cherubs

**Kate Bonner has run Charmouth Cherubs for three years, the last two of those single handedly, but is now handing over the reins.** She's done such a great job that it will take not one but three of us to fill her shoes, and we are Lindsay Douglas, Kathryn Radley and myself, Caroline Linney.

We have put together a great programme of activities for the autumn term and would like to welcome new people as well as familiar faces. Everyone is welcome - parents, grandparents, childminders, whether you want to stay for the whole two hours or just pop in for a cuppa whilst out and about. There are toys and activities for toddlers and an area for babies. Come and meet other people with children and tire out the little ones for their nap!

Charmouth Cherubs takes place every Wednesday during term time from 10am - 12pm in the Village Hall, Wesley Close. The door is kept shut for safety reasons but please come in and join us. Someone will be setting up from about 9.30am so if you've dropped an older one off at school and want to come early, feel free. The cost is £1.50 for one child and 50p for each additional child and includes a snack and drink.

For more information contact :  
Kathryn Radley on 01297 442796  
Caroline Linney at [charmouthcherubs@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:charmouthcherubs@yahoo.co.uk)  
or Lindsay Douglas on 07789 743012



# 1st Charmouth Scout Group



**Toni Green, the Cub Scout Leader at the 1st Charmouth Scout group is retiring.** The Cub Scouts and other Leaders would like to thank Toni for all her hard work with the Pack over the last few years. Toni stepped in to save the Pack from closure and has given plenty of Cubs an exciting and active programme of activities.

The Cub Pack is currently looking for a new Leader to prevent its closure. If any adult thinks they would like to take over this role to give the Cubs an exciting fun, and balanced programme, or knows anyone who might like to be involved, please speak to them and ask them to contact the Group Scout Leader – Trev Jarvis on 07702 408455. All

necessary training will be provided. Unless a replacement Leader can be found there is a danger of the Cub Pack closing. This would be a great loss for the village.

The Scout Troop stayed open for the summer and had various members attend. The programme included cooking trout on fires and roasting marshmallows, a round Charmouth observation quiz, mapping exercises and building and crossing a rope bridge. The Scouts that have attended have enjoyed the activities.

Both sections are meeting during term time and if any children would like to come along and try the meeting out then please ask your parents to contact the Group Scout Leader. Cubs are aged between 8 and 10½ years, Scouts are aged between 10½ and 14 years.

## Tae Kwon-Do School opens in Charmouth



**East Devon Tae Kwon Do, the collective name for the TAGB tae kwon-do schools in Colyton and Axminster, has changed its name to East Devon & West Dorset Tae Kwon-Do, with the opening of a new school in Charmouth.**

Classes run twice a week, on Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 6pm to 7pm, at The

Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane. The instructor is Mr G Waugh, a black belt who already runs classes in Axminster. Students from Charmouth who wish to also train at Axminster or even Colyton, can do so at no additional charge. Families who train together receive a discounted rate.

This will be one of over 600 TAGB (Tae Kwon Do Association of Great Britain) schools across the UK. Tens of thousands of martial artists, male and female, young and old, have trained with the TAGB since it was founded in 1983. The first class in Charmouth was on Wednesday 1st September and every new student's first class is always a free trial.

There is no obligation to join and no fixed term contracts. More information can be found at [www.eastdevontaekwondo.com](http://www.eastdevontaekwondo.com). Anyone interested in joining can call Mr Waugh on 01297 639830 or email him at [admin@eastdevontaekwondo.com](mailto:admin@eastdevontaekwondo.com).

## Brownies

**Our final meeting last term was great fun - plankton trawling in the sea with Meriel from the Heritage Centre - it was amazing what we all found and examined under the microscopes. Our newest recruits then made their Brownie Promise overlooking the sea and we finished off with a BBQ followed by lots of cakes!!** During the holidays we took part in the Fayre parade and had fun running a children's games stall in the park.



This term is looking to be just as much fun with making chocolate apples, a centenary camp fire, trip to visit the donkeys, Remembrance Day parade, Christmas activities and singing Christmas carols for old people in the village, amongst our usual fun and games!

Charmouth Brownies is for girls aged 7 – 10. We meet once a week in term time and have fun doing lots of great things – learning new skills and helping people in our community. We're desperately looking for adults to come along and help- just one meeting a term or as much as you like. You'd be very welcome – Brownies are great at making the adults tea and biscuits!! If you can help in any way please call Caroline on 01297 560207 – thank you!

If your daughter would like to join brownies please give us a call – even if she's not seven yet make sure her name's on the waiting list –

**Caroline Davis** 01297 560207.

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# Charmouth Fayre, Sunday 1st August 2010

**We had a superb turn out of helpers in the morning to put everything in place, which meant we were ready on time. The Parade was led by the local fire engine, followed by the Karizma Majorettes and the fancy dress parade.**

It was a bright but cloudy day, just right to keep people off the beach. They turned up in increasing numbers, and most of them stayed to the very end. Unfortunately the Police Dog display team were on "business" so we had to fill the gap in proceedings and we were lucky that the local fire brigade, who were going to do a chip pan fire demonstration, quickly moved into the arena. The afternoon went extremely well with lots of stalls taking record sums.

The evening started off very slowly but gradually built up to slightly above our usual numbers. The barbeque and bar did good business and both produced excellent income. This was all helped by our group for the evening "Mice with Glasses" who did a great job getting lots of the public up dancing - some were even on stage with the singer! As usual our fireworks did not disappoint and were a wonderful finale to a superb day.



*An assortment of budding fancy dress competitors*

Local organisations who need funds were requested to drop a line to Peter Noel at the Court, The Street, Charmouth, DT6 6PE by the end of September, as we have to sort out the distribution of funds before the AGM at the Elms on 20 October - 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend. On the day of the Fayre we took in excess of £9,500 which was a record and when we add in the spring bank holiday funds, we have had a superb year with a profit of £5,000 even after purchasing a candy floss machine.

**Peter Noel**

## Charmouth Gardeners Annual Flower Show

**It was lovely to welcome more entries, more exhibitors and more visitors to our Show this year.** We had 326 adult entries plus 7 children's, 46 exhibitors contributed and 149 paying visitors called in.

The British climate again caused anguish and frustration when our garden produce was just too late or not quite ready, but the long dry spell did mean there were more flowers on show this year. Sadly the number of entries for the Floral Art classes continues to drop - somewhat surprisingly as there are so many talented flower arrangers in our area. Congratulations to Ron Dampier and Ashley Ball who again earned the job of polishing the most cups in the next year! Ashley won the Banksian Medal for highest monetary gain in the horticultural classes and Ron, the Grace Laker cup on aggregate points.

Mary Davis and David Renfrew excelled in the highest number of Home Produce classes and new-comer Nick Langford won the new cup for best photograph in Show. Martin Kimmich won the Clouzy Cup for best Home Produce exhibit for the second year running. Seven children entered either cookies or beach gardens in their classes and we'd love to see more taking part next year. Maybe the new allotment holders would like to exhibit or set up a display table of their produce?

The home made cakes sold with a 'cuppa' were much appreciated. Thank you, ladies.

All in all, it was a good show thanks to the support of both visitors and helpers. We look forward to an even bigger one next year.

**Gill Savage**

Hon Show Sec 2010

Golden Cap Flower Club raised £80 at the Charmouth Fayre in August, which was donated to the fayre charities. The Club meets in Charmouth Village Hall at 2.15pm on the third Monday of the month. If you are interested in joining or would like further information, please call Lilian Bagnall on 443335.

### Subscriptions

To have your copy of Shoreline delivered to your door for **one year**, please fill in the form below and send it with a cheque or P.O order of £5 to:

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# Willing Helpers

## The Pavey Group need:

A **Chairman** to chair monthly committee meetings and other occasional meetings;

A **Secretary** to take minutes, do some admin work and a little filing on Tuesday mornings.

Treasurer Mike Whatmore indicates that neither post is over arduous!

Please contact Peter Press at the Pavey Room, The Elms on Monday or Tuesday mornings, or phone 01297 561270.

## Royal British Legion

### WOMAN'S SECTION CHARMOUTH BRANCH

#### 'Death of another soldier in Afghanistan'

Sadly this has become an almost daily occurrence, but the terrible truth is that many more are wounded, many of them seriously. Some recover completely, but others are left with physical or mental problems, which can be devastating to the individual and his/her family. This is where the R.B.L. steps in, funding or modifying suitable accommodation, assisting in training for a 'civvy street' job and supporting dependent families- all of which needs a lot of money! The annual Poppy Appeal is the main fund raiser for the R.B.L.- although we to continue raising funds throughout the year - and we hope you will give generously this year.

We have changed the format of our Poppy Appeal Sale this time . It will be a Coffee Morning and Table Top Sale, to be held on Saturday 6th November, from 10 am to 12 noon in the Village Hall, Wesley Close. Please come along for a good cup of tea/coffee, take a chance at the Tombola, maybe buy a cake or something from the Sales Table. Better still, why not rent a table (for £5) and sell your craft products or good quality items that you no longer need yourself.

Poppies will be available in the shops as usual and on The Street on Saturday morning, 13th November. Prior to this, we shall call at as many of the village houses as possible, but we are short of collectors. Please consider spending a few hours helping us out - it is a very good cause!

Contact Pat Stapleton on 01297 560255 for Table Top booking by 30th October, or Poppy Collecting any time!

**Pat Stapleton**

## Nick Shannon

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CHARMOUTH

Tel 01297 560121      njs4@hotmail.co.uk

## St Andrew's Flower Guild

are appealing for ladies to help with  
flower arranging  
in St Andrew's Church.  
Please contact

Pauline Berridge 560957 or Margaret Bowditch on 560129

## Community lunches

We are appealing for volunteers to help with the  
Community lunches which are held on the third  
Tuesday of each month for 10 months of the year.

It is only for a couple of hours and it will give you  
great pleasure to be there.

Please call Peter and Pauline Bonner on 560251 for  
more information.

## Charmouth & Wootton- Fitzpaine Conservatives

**After the hectic activities surrounding the election,  
and due consideration of what it means to be in a  
coalition, our activities seem to revolve around food,  
drink and fundraising.**

We held a very successful barbecue, socially as well as financially, on a sunny day in June. We were also fortunate in July, when we held a coffee morning outside and the sun shone. There were no events in August, which given the weather was just as well!

By the time you read this we will have celebrated with our 'Puddings Evening'. For all those who struggle through main courses inspired by the sweet course to follow, this is their ultimate sort of event. No filling you up with starters and main courses, just tuck into your puddings ... provided by a number of members and presided over by Maralyn and Malcolm Hinxman.

Still relaxed about day-to-day politics, our next major event will be our Christmas Dinner on 3rd December at the Lyme Regis Golf Club.

Its not just armies that march on their stomachs!

Visitors, non-members and even non-believers are always very welcome to attend. We hope that you enjoy our company so much that you join us. New members, particularly committee members, will help us thrive.

**Bob Hughes** (Treasurer) 560487



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The Street, Charmouth.  
DT6 6PU  
Tel. 560221

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Fri 9.00 - 7.30

Sat 8.30 - 1.30



# What's On This Autumn?

**Thursday 7th October**

**Pavey Group AGM**

**7.30pm**

**at The Elms**

**Peter Press 561270**

**Sunday October 10th**

**Harvest lunch**

**12.30pm**

**Village hall**

St.Mary's Catherston  
and St. Andrew's, Charmouth join  
together to share the lunch.

**Pauline Berridge 560957**

**Saturday 16th October**

**'Auction of Promises'**

**7.30pm**

**Village hall**

**Entry is free** so come along - you  
may pick up a bargain and will  
certainly enjoy this fun evening.

**Contact 560251**

*Charmouth Twinning Association*

**Wednesday 20th October**

**Talk and photos on India**

presented by  
Stephen and Jane Skinner

**2.30 p.m.**

**Village Hall**

Tickets: £5 (to include tea and cakes)  
from The Pharmacy or on the door  
*Proceeds to St. Mary's Church,  
Catherston Leweston*

**Saturday 23rd October**

**Festa Italiana**

An Italian evening to include 4-course  
dinner with quiz, live music, raffle etc.

**The Community Hall**

Tickets available from Ida's, Fortnum  
Smith & Banwell

**Jan Johnstone 560052**

**Hazel Robinson 561214**

*Weldmar Hospicecare Trust*

**Monday 25th October**

**Harvest Festival Service**

**2.45pm**

**Bymead House**

All Welcome

**Liz Wilson 560620**

**Saturday 6th November**

**Coffee morning  
and Table top sale**

**10 am to 12 noon  
Village Hall**

To book a table please contact  
**Pat Stapleton on 560255**  
by 30th October

*The Poppy Appeal*

**Thursday 11th November**

**Remembrance Day**

11 O'clock  
on the 11th day  
of the 11th month

Meet in the Arcade for the 2 minute  
silence

**Fri & Sat 12th and 13th November**

**"Make Your Own Gift Boxes"**

Plus the opportunity to browse craft,  
jewellery and Christmas decorations to  
buy for Christmas.

**The Rosery, The Street**

Details available at Ida's  
and Fortnam, Smith & Banwell.  
For availability, location and booking  
phone **Hazel on 561214.**  
*Weldmar Hospicecare Trust*

**Saturday 13th November**

**Street Collecting  
& Mile of Pennies**

**The Morning**

**In the Arcade**

*The Royal British Legion*

**Sunday 14th November**

**Remembrance Day Parade**

**Parade musters at Charmouth  
House car park at 10.30**

10.40 Wreath Laying at the War  
Memorial

11.00 Service in St Andrews Church

**Thursday 25th November**

**Clothes Direct Sale**

**2.00pm**

**Bymead House**

All welcome

**Liz Wilson 560620**

**Saturday 4th December**

**Cheese and Cheer!**

**Village Hall**

Carol Singing, bread and cheese lunch  
with wine followed by mincepies and  
coffee.

Tickets available from  
**Jan Johnstone at 560052**

*Weldmar Hospicecare Trust*

**Sunday 12th December**

**Family Carol Service**

2.45 pm

**Bymead House**

Everybody is welcome to join our  
residents and families.

**Liz Wilson 560620**

**Book an Event at one of our  
Community Halls**

Charmouth Community Hall, 560572  
Lower Sea Lane

Charmouth Village Hall, 560223  
Wesley Close

The Elms, 560826  
The Street

Youth Club Hall, 561004  
Wesley Close

# Village Diary

Sun 2.00-5.30pm	Bowls Club	Recreation Ground, Barr's Lane	Bob Just 560557 June Rebbick 560860
Mon 9.00-11am or by special arrangement	Pavey Group (village history)	The Elms, The Street.	Peter Press 561270
Mondays to Fridays 9.00-12.30	Monkton Wyld Steiner Kindergarten (ages 3-6)	Monkton Wyld Court	Charlotte Plummer 560342
3rd Mon each month 2.15-4.15/4.30pm	Golden Cap Flower Club	Charmouth Village Hall, Wesley Close	Lillian Bagnall 443335
Mon 4.30-6pm (term-time only)	Charmouth Brownies (ages 7-10)	Charmouth Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Caroline Davis 560207
Mon 6.30-8pm (term-time only)	Charmouth Cubs (ages 8-11)	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Trev Jarvis 07702 408455
Mon 8.00-10pm	Charmouth Badminton Club (experience required)	Charmouth Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Trish Evans 442136
Tues 9.00-noon or by special arrangement	Pavey Group (village history)	The Elms, The Street	Peter Press 561270
Tues 2.00-5.30pm	Bowls Club	Recreation Ground, Barr's Lane	Bob Just 560557 June Rebbick 560860
Tues 6.30-8.30 pm	Junior Youth Club (ages 8-11)	Youth Club Hall, Wesley Close	Ken Darling 561004
Tues 7.00-late	Charmouth Badminton (social) begins 5th October	Charmouth Community Hall Lower Sea Lane	Pauline Bonner 560251
2nd & 4th Tues each month 10-noon	Coffee Morning	United Reformed Church, The Street	Rev Ian Kirby 631117
3rd Tues each month 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	The Elms, The Street	Lisa Tuck 560826
3rd Tues each month	Charmouth Natural History Group	For information and venues call Kate Stapleton 560255	
2nd Wed each month 2.30pm	Charmouth Gardeners Winter talks	Charmouth Village Hall. Wesley Close	Kay Churchman 560980
Weds 10.00-noon (term-time only)	Charmouth Cherubs	Charmouth Village Hall, Wesley Close	Kathryn Radley 442796
1st Weds each month 2.30pm	The British Legion (Women's Section)	The Elms, The Street	Pat Stapleton 560255
Weds 7.00-8.45pm (term-time only)	Girl Guides (ages 10 onwards)	For info call Davina Pennells 560965	
Thurs 2.00-5.30pm	Bowls Club	Recreation Ground, Barr's Lane	Bob Just 560557 June Rebbick 560860
Thurs 7.00-10.30pm	Bridge Club (partners can be provided)	Wood Farm (opposite swimming pool)	Vincent Pielez 560738
Most Thursdays 6.00-7.30pm	Hatha Yoga	Monkton Wyld Court	Briony Blair 489546
Thurs 7.00-9pm or by special arrangement	Pavey Group (village history)	The Elms, The Street	Peter Press 561270
3rd Fri each month 7.30pm (eyes down)	Bingo (fund raising for Community Hall)	Charmouth Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Linda Crawford 0781 351 3062
Friday 4.45-8pm	Bopper Bus	Bridport Leisure Centre Drop off /pick up WDDC Car park	Kate Geraghty 489422 Melanie Harvey 560393
Fri 7.15-9pm (term-time only)	Scouts (ages 11-14)	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Jason Udall 01308 27585

**All regular meetings in the Village Diary and dates of events on the What's on? pages in Shoreline are published on [www.charmouth.org](http://www.charmouth.org).**  
To alter any details in the Village Diary or advertise your Charmouth event contact  
Lesley Dunlop **[lesley@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk](mailto:lesley@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk)** **01297 561644**

# Local Contacts

Name/Description	Contact details	Phone
<b>COUNCILS</b>		
Charmouth Parish	Mrs L Tuck, The Elms, St Andrews Drive, Charmouth	01297 560826
	Beach Superintendent, Heritage Coast Centre	01297 560626
West Dorset District	Stratton House Dorchester - All Services	01305 251010
	Emergencies - Out of Hours	01305 250365
Dorset County	County Hall Dorchester - All Services	01305 251000
<b>COUNCILLORS</b>		
Charmouth Parish	Mr M Hayter - Chairman	01297 560896
West Dorset District	Mr D Newson	01297 560855
Dorset County	Col G J Brierley OBE	01297 560660
LOCAL M.P	Oliver Letwin House of Commons London, SW1A 0AA	02072 193000
<b>CHEMISTS</b>	F G Lock, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560261
	Boots The Chemists, 45 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442026
	Lloyds Pharmacy, Lyme Community Care Centre, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442981
<b>DENTISTS</b>	The Lyme Practice, The Elms Medical Centre, The Street, Charmouth	01297 561068
	Kent House Dental Care, Silver Street, Lyme Regis	01297 443442
	Lyme Bay Dentistry, Temple House, Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442907
	M R Symes, 41 Silver Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442846
	Dorset Dental Helpline	01202 854443
	Dental Emergencies - Out of Hours	08457 010401
<b>DOCTORS</b>	The Charmouth Medical Practice, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560872
	The Lyme Practice, The Elms Medical Centre, The Street, Charmouth	01297 561068
	The Lyme Practice, Lyme Community Medical Centre, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442254
	Lyme Community PMS, Lyme Community Care Centre, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 445777
	Lyme Bay Medical Practice, Kent House, Silver Street, Lyme Regis	01297 443399
	NHS Direct - 24-Hour Healthcare Advice and Information Line	0845 4647
	Dorset GP Service - Out of Hours Emergency Service	08456 001013
<b>HOSPITALS</b>	Bridport Community Hospital, Hospital Lane, Bridport	01308 422371
	Dorset County Hospital, Williams Avenue, Dorchester	01305 251150
<b>EMERGENCIES</b>	Police Fire Ambulance Coastguard	999 or 112
<b>EMERGENCY</b>	Gas	0800 111999
	Electricity	0800 365900
	Water	08456 004600
	Floodline	08459 881188
	Pollution	0800 807060
<b>POLICE</b>	Local Police Officers - Chris Forshaw and Mark Jones (Community Police issues)	01305 226912
	Non Urgent call number for reporting incidents / enquiries	01305 222 222
	Bridport Police Station, Tannery Road	01308 422266
	Axminster Police Station, Lyme Close	08452 777444
<b>FIRE and RESCUE</b>	West Dorset Fire and Rescue Service - Group Manager	01305 252600
<b>POST OFFICES</b>	1 The Arcade, Charmouth	01297 560563
	37 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442836
	25 West Street, Bridport	01308 422667
<b>SCHOOLS</b>	Charmouth County Primary, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth	01297 560591
	St Michael's C of E, V A Primary, Kingsway, Lyme Regis	01297 442623
	The Woodroffe School, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442232
	The Sir John Colfox School, Ridgeway, Bridport	01308 422291
	Colyton Grammar School, Whitwell Lane, Colyford	01297 552327
<b>PUBLIC TRANSPORT</b>	National Rail Enquiries - Information on Timetables Tickets and Train Running Times	08457 484950
	National Travel line - Information on Bus and Bus/Rail Timetables and Tickets	08706 082608
<b>SWIM / LEISURE</b>	Bridport Leisure Centre, Skilling Hill Road, Bridport	01308 427464
	Flamingo Pool, Lyme Road, Axminster	01297 35800
	Newlands Holiday Park, Charmouth	01297 560259
<b>LIBRARIES</b>	Charmouth, The Street	01297 560640
	Lyme Regis, Silver Sreet	01297 443151
	Bridport, South Street	01308 422778
	Axminster, South Street	01297 32693
<b>CINEMAS</b>	Regent, Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442053
	Electric Palace, South Street, Bridport	01308 426336
	Radway, Radway Place, Sidmouth	08712 30200
<b>THEATRES</b>	Marine Theatre, Church Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442394
	Arts Centre, South Street, Bridport	01308 424204
	Guildhall, West Street, Axminster	01297 33595
	Manor Pavilion, Manor Road, Sidmouth	01395 514413
<b>WEBSITES</b>		
<a href="http://www.dorsetforyou.co.uk">www.dorsetforyou.co.uk</a>	Dorset's portal for County/District/Town/Parish Councils and other Agencies	
<a href="http://www.saynoto0870.co.uk">www.saynoto0870.co.uk</a>	Cheaper equivalent geographical phone numbers (ie those beginning with 01... or 02...)	